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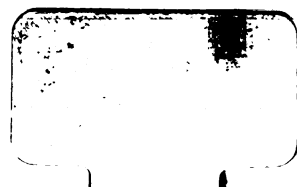
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CHURCH PLATE
IN THE
ARCHDEACONRY
OF WORCESTER.



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CHURCH PLATE

IN THE

ARCHDEACONRY OF WORCESTER,

BEING AN

Inventory and Notice of the Sacred Vessels

IN USE IN THE DIFFERENT CHURCHES,

WITH AN

EXPLANATORY INTRODUCTION.

BY

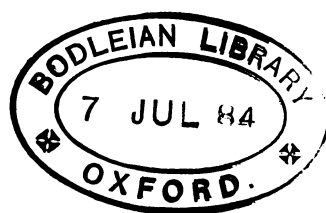
WILLIAM LEA, M.A., ARCHDEACON OF WORCESTER.

WORCESTER: DEIGHTON AND Co., HIGH STREET.

LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL AND Co.

1884.

1871



TO THE RIGHT REVEREND HENRY
LORD BISHOP OF WORCESTER,
BY WHOSE MUNIFICENT ASSISTANCE
SO MANY CHURCHES HAVE BEEN BUILT AND RESTORED,
AND BY WHOSE KINDNESS
THE AUTHOR WAS APPOINTED TO THE OFFICE
WHICH HE HAS THE HONOR TO HOLD,
THIS NOTICE OF THE SACRED VESSELS IN THE CHURCHES
OF THE ARCHDEACONRY OF WORCESTER
IS RESPECTFULLY
DEDICATED.



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Church Plate

IN THE

Archdeaconry of Worcester.

INTRODUCTION.

BEFORE commencing an account of the Church plate in the Archdeaconry of Worcester, I may be allowed to mention the incident by which my attention was first directed to the subject. In the summer of 1881, soon after my appointment to the office which I have the honour to hold, I paid a visit to a distant Deanery. Among other parishes then visited was a Church lying in a deep, secluded valley, and entirely surrounded by woods, it was the most perfect ideal of rural retirement I had then, or have since, seen. I found the Rector, a gentleman of the old school, waiting for me at the entrance of the porch. behind him were the two Churchwardens, behind them the parish clerk. The Rector received me with the greatest courtesy, and took me into the Church and pointed out the Church plate, laid out on the Communion table ready for my inspection. From this incident I took the hint, which I have ever since carried out, of inspecting the Communion plate in the different Churches which I have visited. At first I only noted down such plate as was interesting from its antiquity or peculiarity, and specially the early Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, which is so commonly found in old Churches in the rural parts of the Archdeaconry, but finding, at later visits in other parts, that in some instances these old Cups had recently disappeared, and had been replaced by modern plated ware, it occurred to me that something might be done to prevent further spoliation, by making and

publishing a Terrier or Inventory of the Church Plate of the Arch-deaconry, and as a first step to this, in my notice of visits, I made a request to the churchwardens that they would have all the Communion plate belonging to the parish ready for my inspection in the Church.

Later on, I saw the desirableness of extending this Inventory to other objects; and in consequence I have requested churchwardens of every parish to make an inventory of all the properties, registers, ornaments, and possessions of their Church, and to place it in the parish chest, in order that the articles contained in it may be verified when they are handed over to their successors. I have also requested that a copy of it may be deposited in the Archdeacon's Registry at Worcester.

In order to make the subject and the notices which are given of the plate of the different parishes more clear, it will be desirable to offer a few introductory remarks on the history of the different articles of Communion plate which are now existing in our Churches.

In the reign of Henry VIII. the plate belonging to the Monasteries and the Cathedrals was seized and appropriated by the Crown, but the plate in Parish Churches, in the great majority of cases, was not then interfered with; but towards the end of the reign of Edward VI. the order was issued "that all monuments of superstition should be destroyed." Vessels used at the Mass were specially mentioned, and directions were given that any chalices so used were to be melted down and made into "decent Communion Cups." In this respect our Reformers seem to have acted with less wisdom than when they revised the Service Books of the Church. They might have remembered a Scriptural instance which bears on the point, and have imitated the example of the leaders of God's people of old, the holy vessels from the Temple at Jerusalem were taken away to Babylon, and there defiled by profane hands and uses, yet they were not on this account cast aside, but purified and restored to their original place when the people returned from their captivity. Instead of this the old Communion vessels were directed to be destroyed, and so completely was this direction carried out in the last year of Edward VI., and in the early years of the reign of Elizabeth, that not more than six or eight pre-Reformation vessels are known to remain, and possibly some of these may not be of English manufacture. The best known examples in this neighbourhood are the Chalice and ten of the Church at Leominster, which is supposed to be of 15th century work, though from the absence of the English H.M. it may

be of foreign manufacture. Mr. Lambert, of Coventry Street, by whose kindness the Leominster Cup has been recently restored, and who is considered the best authority of the day on old Church plate, is of opinion that it is of German manufacture, and not earlier than the middle of the 16th century. He tells me that the earliest Cup of English manufacture of which he has any knowledge was sold by him to a former Vicar of Leamington. It is of the date of Henry VIII., and originally belonged to the English Chapel at Calais, and came into his possession when the late Emperor of the French presented a new set of Communion plate to the congregation.

When Mary came to the Throne, in 1553, the order was given for Chalices to be restored, and probably any Communion Cups which had been made at the close of her brother's reign were, in their turn, done away with, for not more than five or six of the date of Edward VI. are now known to exist. At the Accession of Elizabeth stringent orders were again given for the restoration of Communion Cups, and, in obedience to these, the then existing Chalices and other vessels which had been used in the service of the Mass were broken up and made into the new Cups. Bishops, at their Visitations, used to enquire if this had been done, not that all the old plate was accounted for in this way, for in the churchwardens' accounts of the day there are frequent notices of the plate having been stolen by thieves, or in some places sold with the consent of the parishioners to alter and repair the Churches, or even for the purchase of stone for mending the roads. In more recent times, I am sorry to say, there are instances of the old plate of the Church being sold, and plated ware purchased in its stead. I wish to record my protest against this. I think that whatever is used in the celebration of our highest service should, at any rate, be real of its kind. The old Councils order vessels of gold, or at least of silver; our own Reformers almost repeat their words. If we cannot have gold, let us have silver; if we cannot have silver, let us put up for a time with pewter, which was not uncommon at the time of the Reformation, rather than something which makes a pretence of being better than it is. At the same time I am aware that it is not always a question of sparing expense, for I know Churches in which money has been lavished with an open hand on ornament and decoration, where the vessels for Holy Communion are at present of plated ware.

But before entering on a detailed description let me mention

some reasons why the Communion plate now existing in our parishes should not be sold, exchanged, or parted with, unless under very exceptional circumstances. First of all, it should be remembered that in many instances they are the vessels from which, for three centuries or more, generation after generation of the faithful have received the Body and Blood of their Lord, to the strengthening and refreshing of their souls. This alone should be a sufficient argument for their preservation; but more than this, in some instances the silver of which they are made had been used for centuries before the Reformation for the same holy purpose. It is true that the old Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten may, in some cases, have become too small for the increased population of the parish; but this is no reason why it should be parted with, if it is too small for public use it should be put into a case of its own, and kept for the administration of Holy Communion to the sick. Some silversmiths are only too willing to advise parish authorities to exchange these old Cups for modern plate, and will offer to take them at the price of old silver, seeing they are able to re-sell them at four times that amount for the cabinets of curious collectors; but it is hoped that for the future, when their history and the interest which attaches to them become more generally known, their value will be justly appreciated.

Another reason for retaining these old vessels in the Churches to which they belong is, that at least in some instances, they have been consecrated to the service of God. In all the old Pontificals, both of East and West, there is a special service for the consecration of the sacred vessels. In Bishop Andrews' works there is a form of prayer for this purpose. In 1685 Archbishop Sancroft formally consecrated the plate given to Coleshill Church, in this diocese, by Lord Digby. Other Bishops since the Reformation have used similar forms, and I see a notice that in an adjoining diocese Church plate has been recently consecrated by the Bishop, who used a form of service founded on that which was drawn up by Bishop Andrews. Again, in addition to their historical and antiquarian value in connection with the Churches to which they belong, it should be remembered that they cannot legally be sold without a Faculty from the Bishop's Court, to say nothing of the annoyance which may very properly, and is sometimes felt, by the descendants or representatives of a donor, on hearing that the offering of an ancestor, who gave of his best to God,

has been alienated from the Church, because the pattern did not happen to please the taste of its temporary guardians. This may be a good reason for the addition of new plate, but not for the sale or exchange of the old. I do not go so far as to say that there may not be cases in which it is desirable that some vessels, Flagons for instance, may be converted into more useful articles, but I think that the provisions made by the Duchess Dudley with regard to her gift of plate to the parish of Bidford, which is quoted in the inventory, are worthy of attention, and that, at any rate, the consent of the representatives of the original donor should be obtained before any alteration is made with regard to his gift.

In the Inventory of Plate, which is given in the following pages, all articles, unless otherwise described, are of silver, and the dates given for each, are taken from the Tables, and the alphabetical date letters given in Mr. Cripps' book, and the Hall-mark (H.M.) is that of the London Mint, unless otherwise mentioned. I cannot vouch for exact correctness in every case, as sometimes the date letter is so much worn by the cleaning of three centuries as to be almost illegible; and, in other cases, the punch has evidently been applied more than once, and the result is something unlike any letter in the printed list. The English London date letters commence in the year 1445; but I have met with nothing in the Archdeaconry previous to the years 1570-71, the 13th of Queen Elizabeth. In some dioceses, Norwich for instance, there is plate a few years earlier than this, but 1571 seems to have been the year in which Archbishop Parker's injunctions were generally carried out in every part of the country, the Hall-mark at that time being the leopard's head crowned, the lion passant, the maker's initials, and the date letter (this last of course varies in every year). These marks continue till 1696, when "Britannia and the lion's head erased" were substituted for them; but about 1720 the leopard's head crowned and the lion passant were again brought into use, and have continued until the present time.

In addition to the London Mint there were local ones at York, Exeter, Chester, Norwich, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and later at Birmingham; but I have not met with plate which bears the mark of any of these mints except the last, though in a few instances I have met with Scotch (Edinburgh) and Irish (Dublin) Mint marked plate. There are also, as will be noticed in the list, many instances of plate with no Hall-mark at all, but only stamped with the maker's initials, or

private mark. These vessels were evidently not made for sale, but ordered for some particular parish from a local silversmith, and in some instances probably made out of the silver of old vessels belonging to the parish, which were broken up for the purpose ; or, perhaps, in some few cases they may be of foreign make, and were brought to the Churches in which they are found by the exiled Clergy, who returned from the Continent, where they had taken refuge during the reign of Mary or under the iron rule of the Commonwealth.

I need not say that the Church plate in this Archdeaconry is of more than usual interest, not merely from its antiquity and the history attaching to portions of it, but from its great diversity of date and pattern, and from the great variety of the local circumstances of the numerous parishes. The usual articles of plate are the Communion Cup and its attendants (if I may so call them), the Paten, and the Flagon. In addition to these, in some places there are alms dishes, a knife to cut the bread, and in a few instances a small box of silver or plated ware in which the bread is brought to the Church, or to the houses of the sick ; sometimes, too, there is a perforated spoon. This spoon, I need not say, has no relation to the spoon used in the Greek Church to convey the bread, soaked in wine, into the mouths of the communicants, nor to the spoon used in the Roman Church to pour water into the chalice which contains the wine, but is simply to remove any impurities which may have fallen into the wine.

The first of these articles, the Cup, or Chalice, as it was called before the Reformation, from the Latin *Calix* and the French *Calice*, is the vessel into which the wine is poured, to be consecrated and administered to the communicants. The Cup is the one vessel which is mentioned in the accounts of our Lord's institution, and in consequence has always been considered as the vessel of the greatest dignity, and indeed the only one which is essential to the administration of the Sacrament. The bread may be brought in and consecrated on the linen cloth, and possibly this was the custom at the time of the Reformation, as the direction was to provide Cups with covers, which might serve for the ministration or distribution (not consecration) of the bread. In the Inventory which follows I have used the English Cup instead of the French Chalice, as Cup is the word used in Holy Scripture, and in the office for Holy Communion. It was also specially adopted at the time of the Reformation, when Bishops frequently directed the existing "Chalices to be melted up, and decent

Communion Cups to be made." These Cups, it will be noticed, vary in pattern and in size, according to the date at which they were made, or the population of the parishes for which they were provided.

The Paten, from the Latin *Patina*, is the open dish or plate on which the bread is now placed to be consecrated, and from which it is administered to the communicants. In the early Church it was very large, as it served to receive the offerings of the faithful even when given in kind; when these offerings ceased the size of the Paten seems to have been diminished, till it assumed the form of a cover for the Cup. Before the Reformation its shape was very much that of a flat saucer, fitting on to the top of the Chalice. At the Reformation the shape was changed; it was directed that the Cup should have "a cover which might be used for the distribution of the bread." This cover (as shown in the sketch in Plate 1) had a flat button on the top, which served for a stand. This seems to have been the original Paten, and in many small country parishes has continued the only one to the present day; but in populous parishes the want of a larger Paten was soon felt, and accordingly Patens in the form of a plate, from 9 to 12 inches in diameter, and raised on a stem of from 2 to 6 inches in height, were provided. I have noticed these in the Inventory as "salver Patens," and the earliest which I have met with is at S. Helen's, Worcester. It bears the Hall-mark of 1588, just 17 years after the large Cup and cover Paten had been provided for that parish. There is also one at S. Thomas', Dudley, with the Hall-mark of 1594. These old Patens are quite plain. Some years later several were provided in different parts, with a raised border round the Paten and its foot. They are generally about the date of Queen Anne, and were probably originally intended for domestic use. These are described in the Inventory as the "cable border pattern."

The next vessel to be described is the Flagon, a word probably derived from "flascon," a great leathern bottle, and originally from the low Latin *Flasco*, a large flask; or may it have something to do with the Latin *Lagena*, by which word it is often rendered in inscriptions? In its ecclesiastical sense it has a very wide signification. It may be defined as any vessel used to contain the wine before it is poured into the Cup to be consecrated. In pre-Reformation times there were two cruet-shaped vessels, of somewhat different shapes, often of pewter, one for wine, the other for water, the former often of small size, as the Cup was then withheld from the laity; but at the Reformation,

when the Cup was restored, a larger vessel was required for the wine, and the Elizabethan Flagon is described as a vessel with a domed lid and pear-shaped body, with a handle and a lip, mounted on a circular foot. These Flagons are very rare. The parish of Tredington possesses two beautiful specimens in silver, with the date of 1591; but I have not met with any others in the Archdeaconry. In many rural parishes there are still pewter Flagons of various sizes and shapes, evidently of great antiquity, but none with this pear-shaped body of Elizabethan pattern. In towns and country parishes in which there were wealthy residents, pewter Flagons have been often replaced by silver Flagons, many of which date soon after the Restoration, and still more, during the early Georgian era, these are principally tankard-shaped, and were probably taken from domestic use by men who wished to give of their best as a thankoffering to God. There are some vessels now used as Flagons which apparently might have been intended for coffee pots, or for other purposes, before they were dedicated to their holy uses.

In many instances it will be noticed that two Flagons are mentioned in the Inventory. Some ecclesiologists are of opinion that where this is the case one was intended for the wine, the other for water, like the mediæval cruets. But to say nothing of the improbability of this view, at the date when these Flagons were principally given, there is this fact to be noticed, that where there are two Flagons there are also in most instances two Cups and two Patens with them, which would rather seem to imply that two complete sets of vessels had been presented for the Holy Communion. In confirmation of this view it may be mentioned that the two Flagons are the same in pattern, so that there would be nothing to distinguish the one which contained the wine from that which contained the water, which was an essential with the cruet Flagons in pre-Reformation times, the water Flagon being rather larger, as the water was required not only to mix with the wine, but to wash the hands of the Priest, and the Cups; or else they were distinguished by some outward mark, as a ruby on the wine, and a pearl on the water Flagon.

It now remains to give some explanation of the terms which I have used in describing the Church plate in the Inventory which follows, as I have ventured to adopt a somewhat arbitrary classification of my own, noticing it under the following heads:—(1) Elizabethan pattern, (2) Puritan, (3) Peculiar, (4) Georgian, (5) Modern plain, and (6)

Modern mediæval pattern, and to make this more intelligible I have added rough outline sketches in illustration of the patterns. The terms, it will be seen, apply more particularly to the Communion Cup than to the other vessels which are described.

1. The ELIZABETHAN PATTERN (of which a sketch is given in Plate No. 1) is a cone-shaped Cup, with a band of floral ornament running round it, a small knop in the middle of the stem, and a round foot, ornamented with an indented pattern. It has a cover, which is intended to be used as a Paten for the distribution of the bread, the top of the cover being a flat button, so as to make a foot for it to stand upon, and on this button the date is frequently inscribed.

The curious part about these Cups is that they are all nearly of the same pattern, and have the same ornamental band, though varying in size from five to nine inches in height. They were all probably made in the same year, 1571, for though they have sometimes the letter n 1570-1, and sometimes o 1571-2 for their date letter, yet whenever the date is inscribed (which is generally the case) it is 1571. They are found in many old Churches, especially in rural parts, and this Cup and cover is often the only Communion plate belonging to the parish. There are 84 Cups of this date in the Archdeaconry.

Another peculiarity to be noticed in these Elizabethan Cups is the clearness and distinctness of the Hall-mark. I do not remember to have seen more than one in which the date letter was not perfectly plain, while on plate of later date it is often indistinct, and sometimes illegible, this is accounted for by their being made of metal which had been heavily hammered, and perhaps of the metal of old Chalice, which had been broken up for the purpose, they are often very thin, but the silver is so hard that it rings like steel.

Another point to be noticed is that they are found with the same pattern, ornament, and Hall-mark in every part of England, and yet, notwithstanding this uniformity, no order for their pattern has ever been discovered. This identity, when compared with the variety at other dates, makes it almost certain that there must have been a pattern prescribed. Was the new pattern prescribed by the Queen herself? It is not inconsistent with her character to suppose that this might have been the case. Or was the pattern given by Archbishop Parker, or by Convocation? Against this it may be said that these Cups are equally common in both provinces; or was there a monopoly granted for the provision of Cups? The Elizabethan age

we know was an age of monopolies and patents, and in favour of this view it may be adduced that London Hall-marked Cups are common in all parts of England. But why should the date of 1571 be so common, not only in this Archdeaconry, but in every part of England? I cannot discover any local circumstances to account for it here. Bishop Sandys, who was appointed to Worcester in 1559, was translated to London in 1570. Then came a vacancy of some months, as Nicholas Bullingham was not appointed till the beginning of 1571, and there does not appear to have been anything in his Episcopate to account for this general issue; but when we refer to the history of the times, I think we may find a very probable reason. It was early in 1571 that the Queen was formally excommunicated by Pope Pius V. In March, that year, one Felton affixed the Bull, which professed to deprive her of all title to the Crown, and to absolve her subjects from their allegiance, to the gates of the Bishop of London's Palace, might not this great issue of Cups in that year, and the inscription of 1571 upon them, have some connection with this? It might be looked upon as a practical answer to the Pope's Bull, and, looking at it from this point of view, it will throw light on the inscription on the cover Paten of the loyal parish of Ilmington, "1571, God save the Qvene."

It is this 1571 Cup which is known in some places as the "Five Pound Cup," from an old tradition which I have met with in rural districts, both in Worcestershire and Warwickshire, that £5 was granted to poorer parishes for its purchase. In confirmation of this it may be said that this sum would have been about the price of the larger size of this Cup at that particular period, for from the old churchwarden's accounts of an eastern county parish I see that the churchwardens sold their old Chalices at from 5s. to 5s. 6d. per oz., according to their condition, and bought new Communion Cups at 6s. per oz. This would give a Cup and cover of nearly 17 ozs., and a copy of one of these old Cups lately made amounted as nearly as possible to that weight, the silver being the same value at the present time, but the workmanship more than seven times the amount.

But there is another variety of Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten in some parishes in the Archdeaconry which is very curious, and which I have never seen described. A drawing of it is given in Plate 1 (No. 2), and it is noticed in the Inventory as the Elizabethan Cup with fringe on stem and dotted line ornament. Instead of a

floral band, it has a band of rude dotted lines round the Cup, and sometimes round the cover and foot, and a projecting gadroon, which I have called a fringe, round the upper part of the stem. It has no Hall-mark, but only the maker's initials or private mark, made generally with a single punch. I was much puzzled as to its date, till I found two in adjacent parishes with 1571 engraved on the button of the cover. These Cups vary in size and shape, but as a rule they are smaller than those of the usual Elizabethan pattern. They are always found in adjacent parishes, principally on the border of Warwickshire and Worcestershire, which makes it probable that they were provided by the same hand; for instance they are found at Preston Bagot, Wolverton, Norton Lindsey, Beaudesert, and in a modified form at Claverdon; and again at Great Alne, Aston Cantelow, and Binton. At first I was inclined to think, from the absence of Hall-mark, that they were a foreign manufacture, or perhaps survivors of Edwardian date, but now I am more inclined to think that they were made, like the others in 1571, but by local silversmiths, and possibly being made out of old materials, and not being required for sale, were never tested to be stamped by any Hall-mark. Perhaps this peculiar fringed stem may be of older work, as the junction to the Cup and foot is often of rude workmanship, at any rate they have one peculiarity which favours the idea of an earlier date, in all the 1571 Cups of the usual pattern the cover is made to be used as a Paten, and there is no aperture into the button; but, with these Cups of the fringed stem pattern, the aperture is left, though it has sometimes been more recently closed by a small plate of silver, so as to make the cover available for a Paten.

2. PURITAN PATTERN.—After the great issue of Elizabethan Cups in 1571, this particular pattern almost entirely disappears. The few exceptional cases were probably copies of the old Cups, which might have been broken or otherwise defaced. Towards the later years of Elizabeth's reign, a change began to take place in the shape of the Communion Cup, and what I have described in the Inventory as the Puritan pattern came in, and continued to be the prevailing type for more than a century. The floral and dotted belts, and all ornamental work on the stem was discontinued, and the Cup itself is considerably enlarged. The knop in the centre of the stem in some instances is made more prominent, in others it is entirely omitted. There is often an inclination to a lip at the top of the Cup. In some few cases

there is scarcely any stem, the Cup rises out of a long foot. Covers to be used as Patens are generally found with these Cups, but they are perfectly plain and flat, and seldom have any date inscribed. There is another variety of Cup which is coeval with these, which is described in the lists as the "baluster stem pattern." These Cups are common from about 1590 to the Restoration, some of them bearing the date of the Commonwealth. They were probably originally made for domestic use, and presented at a later date to the Church. In confirmation of this view it may be mentioned that where the presentation is recorded on the Cup, it is generally several years later than the date of the Hall-mark; and again, they have either no cover for Paten, though covers were usual at their dates, or, if they have, it has been added, as the Hall-mark shows, many years after the presentation of the Cup.

3. PECULIAR PATTERN.—Under this name I have described several specimens of plate which either do not come under any other head, or are remarkable for their richness, their unusual pattern, or for some other speciality. The plate at Bidford may be mentioned as the most notable example. Others are figured in Plate 3.

4. The pattern called the GEORGIAN is found from 1710 to 1760. Its characteristics are size and massiveness; it is often silver gilt, and not unfrequently engraved with the donor's arms.

5. MODERN PATTERN, PLAIN.—This is usually found in Churches built during the first half of the present century. It is often of plated ware, and if of silver has little to recommend it, either in workmanship or design.

6. MODERN PATTERN, MEDIEVAL.—The plate thus described is copied or adapted from mediæval or foreign patterns. It is often very handsome, and not unfrequently jewelled, and parcel or wholly gilt. It is generally found in Churches in which a more ornate style of Ritual is adopted. The more highly finished Cups of this pattern often have a border round the top, with the words of Psalm cxvi., 13, vulgate version—"Calicem *Salutaris* accipiam et nomen Domini invocabo." This pattern, it may be remarked, seems to require to be parcel gilt and jewelled to produce its full effect in appearance.

It may be well to mention that the Terriers which were called for by Bishops of Worcester in the years 1585, 1616, and 1714 are now in the Bishop's Registry, but they do not contain any notices of Church plate, as is the case in some Dioceses. They relate only

to the glebe lands and buildings, and the profits and tithes belonging to the livings. Nor do the questions sent by Bishop Freake to the parishes in 1585 make any reference to the subject, they only relate to the Church Bible, the glebe, the patronage of the living, donatives, and such like matters, and with regard to the Clergyman himself, whether he has an University degree, and whether he be a preacher or not; so that there is no Diocesan account of the Church plate to fall back upon for information, as in some Dioceses. There is indeed an Inventory of Church goods and Certificates of Chantries in the time of Edward VI. in the Public Record Office, from which extracts relating to the county of Worcester were made by Mr. Makenzie Walcott, and published by our Architectural Society in 1872; but when it is remembered that since that Inventory was made there were the orders in the later years of Edward VI. that all monuments of superstition should be destroyed, and then the reign of Mary, in which Chalices were restored; then the stringent orders of the Bishops, in the reign of Elizabeth, that Chalices should be made into Communion Cups, and the general issue of Cups in 1571, it will be clear that it would be only by accident that anything named in that Inventory remains.

It is hoped that the Inventory which it is proposed to ask for at the Visitation of 1884 will supply this deficiency, and will provide an accurate account of all the properties, furniture, and ornaments of the Churches in the Archdeaconry.

It will be noticed on reading the Inventory that there are four periods which are specially rich in the provision of Church plate. The first is the reign of Elizabeth, and particularly the year 1571. There are also several specimens of plate in the later years of her reign, which we may suppose were provided to replace vessels of pewter, or of other inferior metals. Plate of the reign of James I. is very rare, the Cup of S. Alban's, Worcester, and the Flagon at Severn Stoke are the only examples I have met with. There are several specimens of the reign of Charles I., owing probably to the influence of Archbishop Laud. There are also a few which bear the date of the Commonwealth; but the second period which is rich in the provision of Communion plate is the Restoration, this is easily accounted for on historical grounds, doubtless in many places the Commonwealth was a time of destruction and spoliation, and new plate was required to replace that which had been lost. The many

massive Flagons of this date might have been thankofferings from Royalist gentry, who wished to give to God of their best, "for as much as the King is come again in peace unto his own."

The next great outburst of liberality is not so easily accounted for. It begins with 1714, and goes on to the middle of the 18th century. In 1714 Bishop Lloyd presented the handsome set of plate to the parish of Hartlebury. He died in 1717, and was succeeded by Bishop Hough. During his episcopate, which continued till 1743, and that of his successor, more than thirty handsome articles of plate (often Flagons weighing from 70 to 80 ounces each) were given to Churches in the Archdeaconry. Whether this was owing to the Bishop's influence, or whether it was an outcome of the "Augustan Age," I cannot say, nor am I aware how far this period is equally rich in presentations in other Dioceses, but in Worcester it is very remarkable. In favour of the first of these conjectures, it may be mentioned that there is a curious jug-shaped Flagon, of foreign manufacture, at S. Helen's, Worcester, engraved with Bishop Hough's arms, and which was probably presented by him; but there may be a valid historical reason for the presentation of plate at one part of this period, it will be noticed that in some instances plate was given in 1745, if we suppose that these presentations were made at Christmas in that year, might they not have been thankofferings for the unexpected retreat of the Pretender and his Highland clans from Derby, just at the time when the counties which lay in his line of march to London were in daily fear of the visitation of his army?

The fourth great period for the provision of Church plate is the present age, in which so many new Churches have been built, and old Churches restored or re-built by true-hearted Churchmen, assisted by the munificent donations of the Bishop. Unfortunately, from my point of view, the art of silver plating has of late years been carried to a high point of excellence, and, in consequence of the comparative cheapness of plated ware, many of these new Churches have been provided with vessels of this description. Doubtless when money is an object it is tempting to be able to provide a set of vessels of good design for the price of one article of real metal, but if this difficulty should ever occur, I would venture to suggest that the Cup and Paten at any rate should always be of real metal, and that a Flagon of glass or pewter should be provided until there is an opportunity of procuring a more worthy one.

The plate of the Cathedral Church of the diocese does not properly come into my list, but it may be interesting to know its date and character. If we except the small Paten, which was found in the stone coffin of Walter de Canteloup, there is only one vessel earlier than the Restoration. The older plate would probably have disappeared when Cromwell's army occupied the Faithful City, if it had not been previously melted for the King. This vessel is a salver Paten, but the Hall-mark is quite obliterated, from its appearance it is probably early 17th century work. The other plate consists of a very handsome set of two large and massive tankard-shaped Flagons, and two very large Cups, with covers for Patens, all richly gilt, engraved with an ornamental pattern, and the arms of the Cathedral, they bear the Hall-mark of 1661, so that no time was lost after the Restoration in replacing the sacred vessels which had been lost. There are also two smaller Cups, and a Flagon to match, also gilt and engraved, but of much later date.

I may mention here that all plate, unless otherwise described, is of silver, and that wherever modern plate only is noticed in an old Parish Church, it may be concluded that the original vessels have been sold or otherwise disposed of.

It is hoped that the publication of the following Inventory may do something towards preventing such alienations for the future.

W. L.

S. Peter's, Dec. 31, 1883.

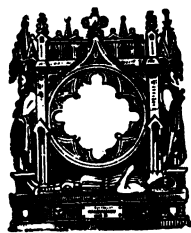
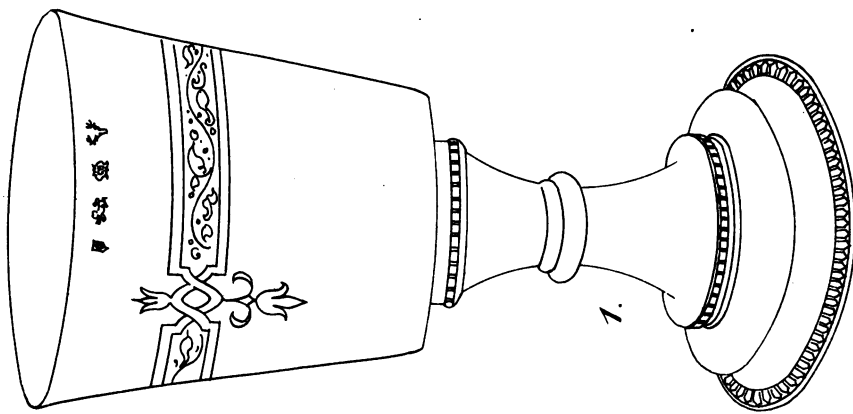
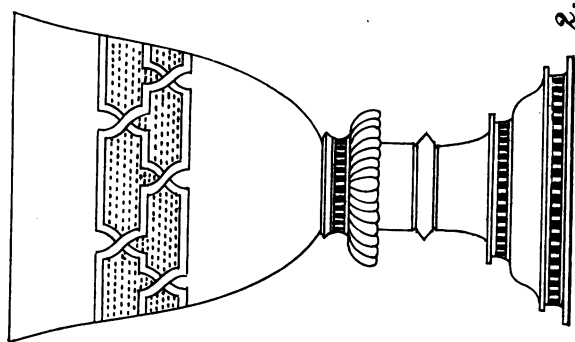
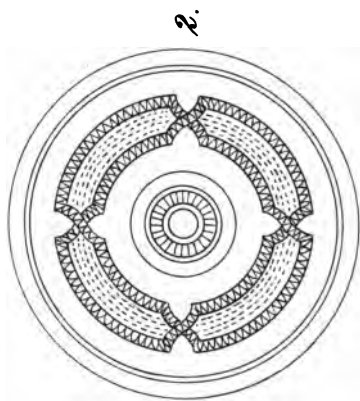


PLATE 1. Elizabethan 1577 Patterns.

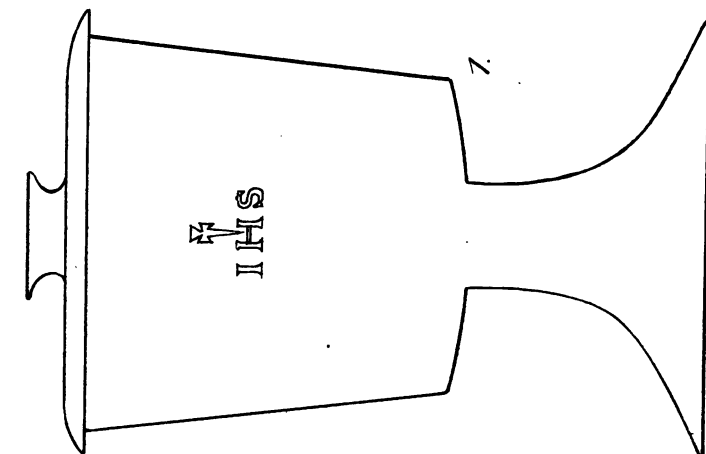


1. Usual Pattern with Floral Band and Cover for Paten.

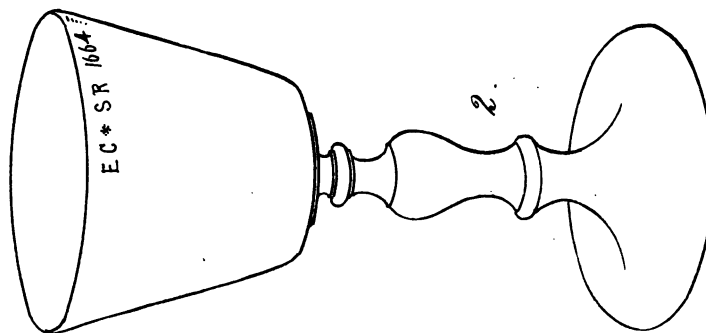


2. Fringe on Stem Pattern and Cover with dotted line Band - a local variety.

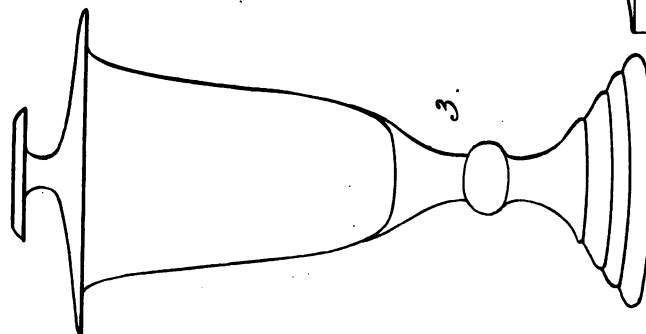
PLATE 2.



1. Puritan Pattern.

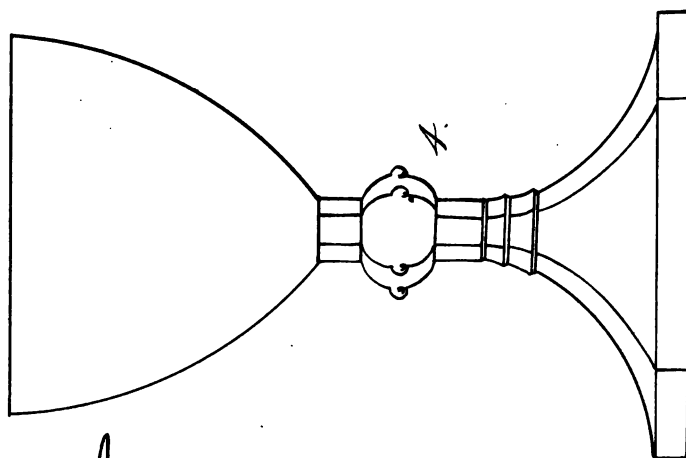


2. Baluster Stem Pattern.



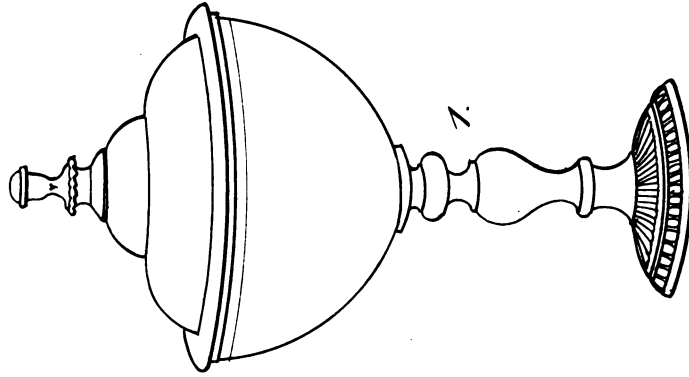
3. Georgian Pattern.

(half the proportionate size)

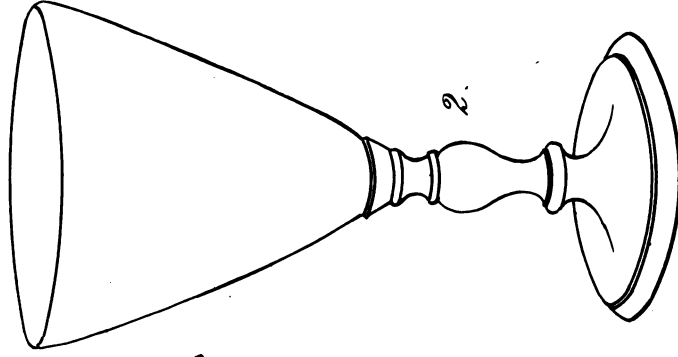


4. Modern Medival Pattern.

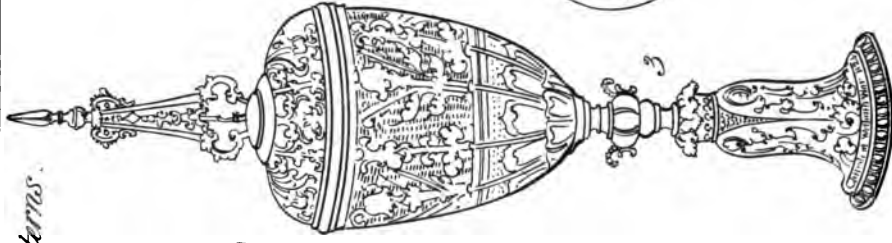
PLATE 3. Peculiar Patterns.



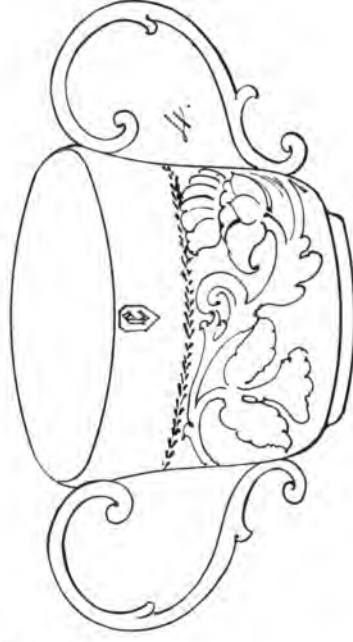
1. Intherraw 1592.



2. Newbold Percy 1600.



3. Welland 1721.



4. Ipsley 1682.

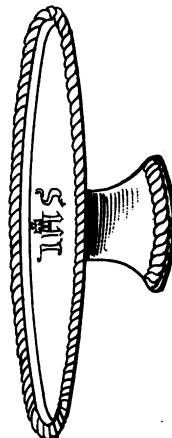
PLATE 4. *Patens.*

2.



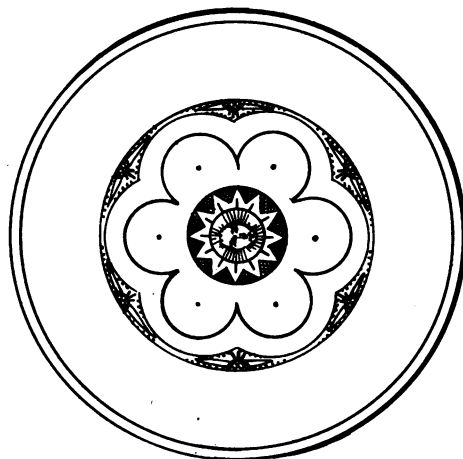
2. *Salver Paten plain.*
1590.

3.



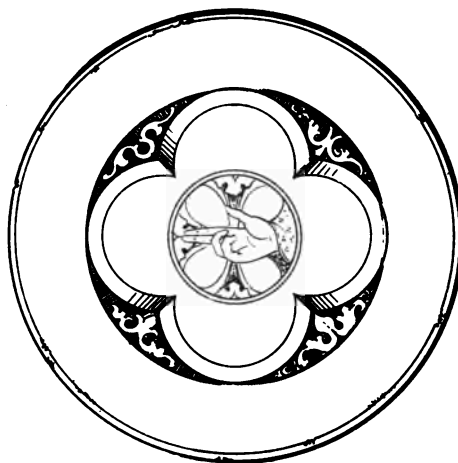
3. *Salver Paten.*
Cable border. Queen Anne.

1.



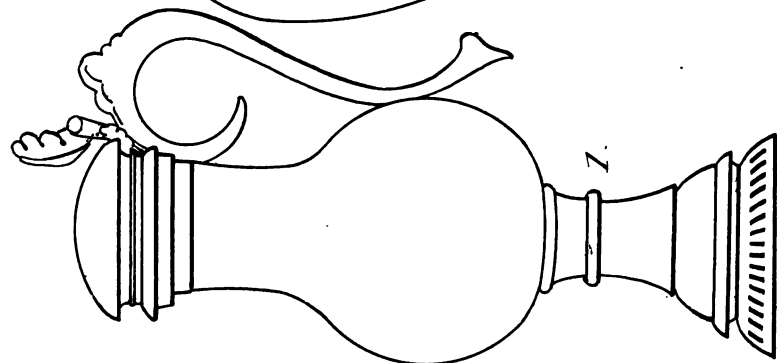
1. *Cotton Hacket*
of pre-Reformation date
but possibly Foreign.

4.

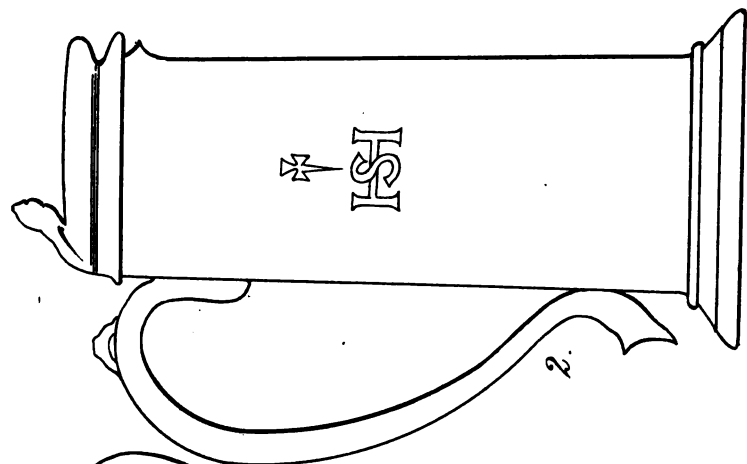


4. *From the Stone Coffin of*
Walter de Cantelupe
Bishop of Worcester 1236.

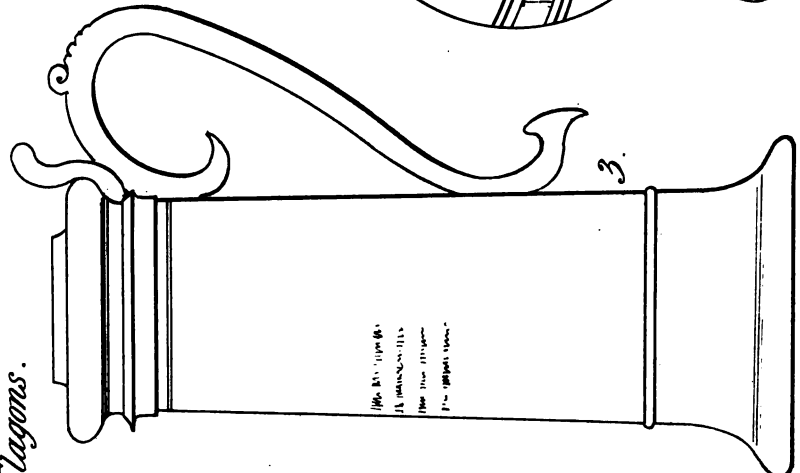
PLATE 5. *Flagons.*



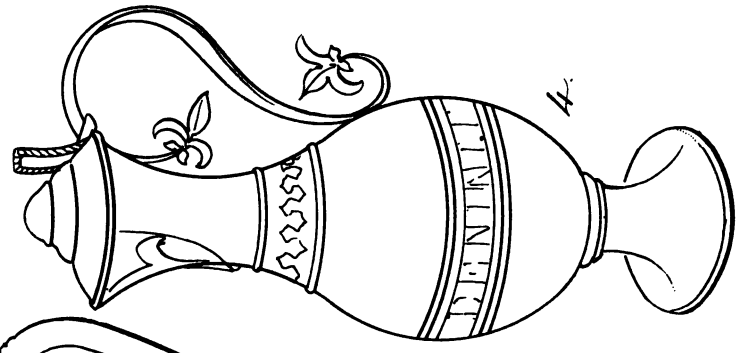
1. Elizabethan 1591.



2. Restoration 1663.



3. Georgian 1714.



4. Modern Medieval.

Church Plate.

DEANERY OF ALCESTER.

The letters H.M. where used stand for Hall-mark.

Parish of Alcester.—Here there is a Cup, a Paten to match, a Bread-plate, and Flagon, of modern mediæval pattern, silver gilt, and very handsome, the gift of the Rev. A. H. Williams, the present Rector.

Arrow.—There is one Cup and cover for Paten of Puritan pattern, Hall-mark 1670; one large Bread-plate, H.M. 1727; one Flagon, originally, from its shape, in domestic use as a coffee pot, apparently silver, but no H.M.

There is also a second Cup, a copy of the 1670 Cup, in plated ware.

Aston Cantelow has an old Elizabethan Cup, with cover for Paten, with the dotted line ornament running round it, of the fringe on stem pattern. No H.M., but only the maker's mark punched once. No date inscribed.

There is also a Paten and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, and one large old pewter Flagon.

Bidford.—The magnificent plate belonging to this parish, which was given by the Duchess Dudley in the year 1665, will be best described by the following entry in the register book of the parish. It is of repoussé work, and, having no H.M., is probably of foreign make, possibly Spanish, as it much resembles the plate which may now be seen at Seville and other Cathedrals in that country.

The same Duchess Dudley is also said to have been the donor of similar handsome plate to the parishes of Kenilworth, Stoneleigh, Leek Wootton, and Monks Kirby, in the county of Warwick. The entry is as follows:—

“Whereas Her Grace the Dutchesse Dudley of the Parish of Saint Giles in the Fields in the County of Middlesex owner of lands and tenements in Marl Cliff and Barton within the Parish of Bidford aforesaid hath out of her pious disposition and benevolence towards Bidford Church aforesaid freely given and bestowed thereto the

"Communion Plate to wit a large flagon a bread bowle and a great chalice all three having covers belonging to them the said plate beinge silver ritchly guilt and garnished with pictures and flowers for the use of the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be administered in the same Church as an ornament suitable for the service of that most Sacred Banquet with and upon this condition that the said Plate shall for ever solely remain for the use aforesaid and not be diverted employed or disposed of to any other use and upon this further condition that if at any time hereafter the Vicar Churchwardens or other Officer or Inhabitant of the said Parish of Bidford for the time being shall presume or endeavour to alienate sell embessell or otherwise dispose of the Plate aforesaid or any part thereof from the use aforesaid that then the Gift above mentioned to become void and frustrate and that then and from thenceforth the propriety and property in and of the Plate aforesaid shall revert and be vested in the said Dutchesse her hands and assignes who shall and may have lawful right to demand sue for and recover the same or the value thereof from the parties soe alienating selling embsselling or otherwise disposing of the plate aforesaid."

The receipt of the plate was acknowledged by the Vicar and Churchwardens, and attested by five of the principal inhabitants of the ancient "Burrough of Bidford."

Billesley has a large plain Cup of Puritan pattern, with no H.M. or inscription. There is a cover for Paten, with H.M. of 1634, which is probably the date of the Cup itself. There is a Plate for Alms, inscribed "The gift of Mr. Whalley, A.D. 1700."

Binton.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the fringe on stem and dotted line ornament. As usual with this pattern, there is no H.M., only the maker's mark or initials punched once. There is no date inscribed.

There is also a handsome Flagon, silver gilt, tankard-shaped, H.M. 1683, inscribed "The gift of Mrs. Sarah Walford." This Flagon is kept in a wooden case, fitted to its shape, and covered with dark leather. It will be noticed that these separate "cases" are mentioned in several other instances. They are probably more in accordance with ancient usage than our present more convenient custom of keeping all the sacred vessels in one box. The old direction was that each Chalice was to have its own Paten, cruets, and pyx, with separate cases, bags, or satchels, to receive them.

Binton has also a salver Paten, with H.M. of 1788, inscribed "The gift of Mary Kempson."

Coughton has a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern, in plated ware.

Exhall has a Cup and cover for Paten of Puritan pattern, inscribed "d. d., M. J.," also a curious old pewter salver Paten with cable border, similar in size and pattern to the silver ones of the date of Queen Anne, which are found in several Churches.

Wixford has a Cup and Paten, silver gilt, modern mediæval pattern, presented in 1881 by Lady Hertford, when the Church was re-opened after restoration.

There is also a pewter salver Paten with cable border, similar to that in the adjoining parish of Exhall.

Haselor has a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern, in plated ware.

Headless Cross possesses two sets. The first consists of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon in plated ware, of plain modern pattern, with the date of 1850, the year of the building of the Church; also another very handsome set, consisting of a Cup, in part gilt, the stem set with jewels, the foot embossed with ornament; a Paten to match the Cup, and a Flagon of glass, with silver gilt band set with jewels. The above are of modern mediæval pattern, and bear the H.M. of 1873, and were given to the Church by the late Honourable Mary Clive.

Ipsley.—The Communion Cup here is very curious; it is in shape like a porringer cup, with two handles and no stem, the lower part being embossed with flowers. The H.M. is evidently 1682. There is a similar Cup at Pendock, with the H.M. of 1727. These are the only Cups of this shape in the Archdeaconry; but they probably bear more resemblance than any other pattern in shape, if not in size, to the Cups of the Early Church, which are described as having two handles, or "ears." It is this form of Cup which appears in the Mosaics in the Churches at Ravenna, of which the date is as early as the middle of the 6th century.

Kinwarton with Great Alne has a small Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with usual floral band ornament, H.M. 1571; also a small Paten, with the H.M. of 1651 (third year of Commonwealth), inscribed as given by "F. E. and S. C., in 1735."

There is a Flagon with the H.M. of 1735, inscribed as the gift of the same donors in 1735.

Great Alne, too, has an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the dotted line ornament, and fringe on stem. No H.M. ; no date inscribed.

There is a Paten, inscribed as given by "R. and E. Seymour, in "1842," and a Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed as given by Mrs. Rufford, in 1848.

Morton Bagot has a small Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, usual floral band ornament, H.M. 1571, and a large salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1795.

There is also a Flagon, which, from its shape and appearance, was probably once used as a coffee pot. This too has the H.M. of 1795.

Oldberrow.—The Cup here is of plain pattern, with the H.M. of 1787. There is a large salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1830.

Salford Priors has a very large Cup, of Georgian pattern. The Paten, which is the cover fitting on the Cup, has no H.M. There is a large tankard-shaped Flagon without a spout. These articles are in separate cases of wood, covered with brown leather, and are inscribed as "Given by Mrs. Maria Best, A.D. 1722." The H.M. is very like the Roman capital G of 1584, but, from their shape and general appearance, it is undoubtedly the G of 1722, the year in which they were given.

Salter Street.—A Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern, in plated ware.

Spernall has a very curious Cup, with baluster stem, without any ornament, and the H.M. of 1581. This is the earliest instance of the baluster stem pattern which I have met with. There is a cover for Paten, which, as usual with this pattern, is a later addition, and bears the Birmingham H.M. of 1776.

Studley.—Here there is a large Cup and cover for Paten of the Georgian pattern, inscribed "Ex dono Court Dewes Arm. 1736," and engraved with his arms. H.M. 1736. Also a large tankard-shaped Flagon, inscribed, "Court Dewes armiger dedit 1727," H.M. 1727.

There is also a Paten of plated ware.

Tanworth.—The Cup here resembles that of Spernall, only it is much larger, and there is no cover. It has the same baluster stem ; the H.M. is 1639, but it is inscribed "E. C. * S. R., 1664," this last being probably the date of its dedication to the Church. There is a salver Paten, with cable border round the Paten and foot, with the H.M. of 1645, though this is partially obliterated, and it may be either

1639 or 1648, as the Court-hand letters are very difficult to decipher. There is also a Flagon and an Alms Dish.

Temple Grafton has a small Cup of early Puritan pattern, and the H.M. of 1586. A small Flagon, of modern mediæval pattern, the H.M. of 1875. The Paten is a salver Paten of pewter, with the cable cord border, similar to those in the neighbouring parishes of Exhall and Wixford. There are also two pewter Plates for Alms.

Ullenhall.—Here there is no old plate remaining, but two Cups, one large salver Paten, one small Paten, and one Flagon, of modern mediæval pattern, in plated ware.

Wilmeote has one Cup, one Paten, one Flagon, of modern mediæval pattern, presumed to be the gifts of the Very Reverend E. K. Fortescue, the founder of the Church. They bear the Birmingham H.M. of 1857.

Wooton Wawen.—The plate at this Church consists of a Cup, a Paten, an Alms Dish, and a Flagon, of modern mediæval pattern, all silver gilt. They were the offering of an unknown donor at the recent restoration of the Church.

DEANERY OF BLOCKLEY.

Parish of Aston Magna.—Here there is a set of plate of modern pattern, consisting of a Cup, Paten, Alms Dish, and Flagon, each inscribed "Aston Church, 1843." They were presented by the Patron of the living, Lord Redesdale.

There is also a handsome polished brass Alms Dish, presented by the Vicar and friends in 1878.

Blockley.—The Communion plate of Blockley parish consists of nine articles, which are given according to date.

A large Plate, plain, inscribed "Hanc patinam sacris in ecclesiæ de Blockley, pro singulari sua pietate dedicavit Dnà Elizabetha uxor Francisci Martyn armig." Also a set of two Cups, one large salver Paten, two smaller Patens, and two Flagons, of Georgian pattern, engraved with the crest and motto of the Right Honourable Elizabeth Countess Dowager of Northampton, and inscribed as the set of Communion plate given to the Church of Blockley by her. The weight of the whole set is mentioned as 164 oz. 16 dwts., and the date 1732. On the two smaller Patens a coronet is engraved on the reverse, and they are inscribed "Nisi Dominus."

Pasford has also a complete set of plate, consisting of a plain Cup,

a large salver Paten, a small Paten, and a Flagon, with a raised cross on lid, with the H.M. of 1866, and each article is inscribed "Paxford. Presented by the Lady Grace Gore, 1866."

Daylesford.—The Communion plate here is all modern, of the date of 1860, and of plain pattern, and consists of a Cup, a Paten, and a Flagon. There is also an Alms Dish of brass.

Evenlode.—Here there is a plain Cup with cover for Paten, inscribed "The gift of Mrs. Judith Leader to the parish of Evenlode." H.M. probably 1753. There is a large Alms Dish, inscribed "The gift of Alexander and Christina Mitchell to the parish of Evenlode, Worcestershire, 1843," and a smaller Alms Dish in plated ware.

Stretton-on-Fosse has a small Cup with cover for Paten, inscribed "Ad usum ecclesiæ de Stretton super le Fosse in com Warwick." The H.M. is so obliterated as to be illegible. There is also a set of modern Communion plate, consisting of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Alms Plate, inscribed, "This Flagon, Cup, Paten, and Plate presented by G. P. Jervoise, Esq., to the Church of Stretton-on-Fosse, July 14, 1842. Co. Warwick."

DEANERY OF BREDON.

The Parish of Bredon has a large Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, H.M. 1571, of the usual floral band pattern. A salver Paten, with inscription, surrounded by a wreath of roses, "1799, Bredon Church, by J. Smith, R."

Bredon's Norton has a large plain Cup, 8½ inches high, with cover for Paten, H.M. 1709; also a large salver Paten, inscribed on reverse, "Norton-juxta-Bredon." There is no H.M., but the maker's initials, R. T., are punched four times.

Cutsdean.—Though separated from it by several intervening parishes, Cutsdean is still a hamlet of Bredon, and possesses the following Communion plate:

A Cup and Paten, both with the H.M. of 1767; on the foot of the Paten the date is also inscribed, 1767. There is an Alms Dish of pewter.

Croome D'Abitôt.—The Communion Cup here is of very large size, 11 inches in height; the bowl is 5½ inches in diameter. The Paten is the cover for the Cup. There is also a large tankard-shaped Flagon, and two Plates for Alms. They are all silver gilt, and bear

the H.M. of 1635. The Coventry arms are engraved on each piece, but there is no inscription. From the date, they were evidently given by the Lord Keeper Coventry four years before his death.

Croome, Earl's.—The plate here is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the usual band of floral ornament, and the H.M. of 1571.

Croome Hill.—Here again the plate consists of a similar Elizabethan Cup, with cover for Paten, but of smaller size; the H.M. of 1571. There is also a small Paten of modern pattern.

Overbury.—The Communion plate belonging to this parish and its three annexed Churches is of great interest, as it comprises four Elizabethan Cups. The Church of Overbury possesses one of large size, with cover for Paten, inscribed "1571" on the button of the cover. There is no H.M., but two punches, one with the maker's initials, and the other with a heart-shaped stamp. The British Archæologists, who visited Overbury in 1881, were of opinion that the stem of this Cup was Gothic work, and a part of the original pre-Reformation Chalice. This may possibly be the case, as the stem is very short in proportion to the size of the Cup, and the ornamental work peculiar. If so it may be the same with others of the 1571 Cups. There is a Paten, inscribed "Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis," with the H.M. of 1872, and a second Paten and Flagon, with the H.M. of 1876. These two Patens and the Flagon are inscribed on the reverse "In honorem, Dei St. Faith's, Overbury, Christmas, 1876. d.d. Richard Biddulph Martin." There is also a large embossed Alms Dish.

At Teddington there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, inscribed on the button of the cover "1571." There is no H.M., but the Cup has the same punch marks as the Cup at Overbury. The stem also corresponds both in pattern and workmanship. There is also a pewter Alms Dish.

At Alston is another Cup, which, from the floral band, is probably of the same date, but there is no date inscribed, nor is there any H.M. It is punched with the maker's initials, which are different from those at Overbury and Teddington. There is also a Paten and a Flagon, with the H.M. of 1880, the gifts of Miss Levett, of Cheltenham.

At Little Washbourne, too, is another Elizabethan Cup. The workmanship of the stem corresponds with that at Overbury, but the pattern of the ornamental work is different and unique. There is no

H.M. or date inscribed, and only one punch mark, which is indistinct. There is also a pewter Paten.

Queen Hill.—The Cup here is small, and of peculiar shape, almost rising from the foot without stem. The H.M. is very indistinct, but most resembles that of 1653 (Commonwealth). There is a Paten recently purchased, which has evidently been the cover of a large Cup, probably of the date of the Restoration, but the H.M. is partly obliterated. There is also a pewter plate, inscribed "Ex dono "T. Harding 1677." This plate is very curious, as it is stamped with the silver H.M. of 1663. The Flagon is of pewter, and probably of the same date.

Ripple.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup, with the usual floral band, and the H.M. of 1571. In addition to this there is a Cup, Paten, Alms Dish, and Flagon, with the following inscription:—"Sacrum Ecclesiæ de Ripple in com Vigorn Rectore Roberto Lucas "S. T. P. 1793."

Severn Stoke.—The Cup here is an Elizabethan one, of large size, with the usual floral band, and the H.M. of 1571, and inscribed "1571" on the side of the Cup. This is the only instance of an inscription on a 1571 Cup. The inscription is always on the stand of the cover. The stem has been renewed at some later date, but the foot is the original one. The 1571 cover for Paten is gone, but a plain substitute was made for it, which is inscribed "1787," but it has no H.M. There is a salver Paten, quite plain, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, on a stem only half an inch in height, inscribed "Ex dono "Thome et Johis Somer." There is no H.M., but only the maker's punch, J. N. Its probable date would be the same as the Flagon which follows. The Flagon is a very large and handsome one, tankard-shaped, 13 inches to the dome, inscribed on the Flagon itself, "Thomas Chapleyne and Joan his wife," and on the dome "Ex dono "Thomæ Chapleyne." The thumb-piece of the lid is the figure of a winged angel, and on three sides of the Flagon are engraved figures of the "Good Shepherd," in the costume of the date, which, from the H.M., is 1619. This Flagon is remarkable as one of the few specimens of Church plate of the reign of James I., and as one of the earliest Flagons in the Archdeaconry.

Strensham.—Here, too, there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, on the button of which is inscribed "Ano Do 1571." The H.M. is 1571.

There is a salver Paten with cable border, inscribed "Ex dono Donæ Annæ Lygon viduæ filiæ Honbilis Dni Francisci Russell Baront. Natu Maximæ A.D. 1693. Sacrum Ecclesiæ de Strensham." The H.M. is 1692.

There is a larger Flagon, tankard-shaped, with flat top, 12 inches in height. It is not inscribed, but is engraved with the Russell arms, and bears the H.M. of 1663.

Strensham also, like Hatton, possesses two remarkably handsome large silver candlesticks. The feet are heptagonal, and nine inches in diameter, and in the centre of the stems are flying supports. They are not inscribed, but bear the H.M. of 1670.

DEANERY OF DUDLEY.

Parish of Blackheath, S. Paul.—The Cup, Paten, and Flagon are of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware.

Cradley.—Here are two old polygonal Cups of very curious pattern in plated ware; also two Cups, a Paten, a Flagon, and two Alms Dishes of modern plain pattern, also of plated ware.

Dudley, S. Thomas.—This parish possesses a large Elizabethan Cup with the usual floral band, and the H.M. of 1571. It is much battered, and the stem has been filled with lead. There is no cover. There is also another old Cup, 10 inches high, of Puritan pattern, the stem being unusually long in proportion. There is no H.M., but an inscription runs round the Cup, "William Tamson and Thomas Bradlie, Churchwardenes. Anno 1626. As made for Dudlee." This last sentence is interesting, as confirming the theory that when Cups were made for particular parishes, and not for sale, they were often not tested, or stamped with the H.M.

There is a very handsome Flagon, about 12 inches high, with a domed top; the sides are pear-shaped, which is very unusual. The H.M. is J, which I do not find in any list. Perhaps it is identical with the I of 1724? as the Flagon is inscribed, "This Flagon was given for the use of the Communion in St. Thomas' Church, Dudley, by Gilb. Shaw, of Birmingham, 1743." On both Flagon and Cup are inscribed, "Gilt inside at expense of Vicar, 1864."

There are three Patens, the earliest, which bears the H.M. of 1594, is about eight inches in diameter, and quite flat; the stem is about

three inches in height. It was originally gilt. This is one of the earliest salver Patens in the Archdeaconry. There is another salver Paten, about 12 inches in diameter, inscribed "Samuel Shaw, Gent. "d.d. Sacrum ecclesiæ St. Thomæ in Dudley." The H.M. of this is quite illegible. There is also a small salver Paten, five inches in diameter, with the H.M. of 1721.

Dudley, S. Edmunds.—Here there is a Cup with a Paten to match, inscribed "The gift of John Hodgetts, Gent., 1749." There is another Cup, which is inscribed "The gift of Mrs. Phœbe Dickson, 1801." There is also a small Paten, recently given, and a Flagon, the lid surmounted with a cross, inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Elizabeth "Bennett, Easter, 1872." All the above vessels are of plain pattern, and engraved with the sacred monogram. There is also a perforated spoon, "The gift of Mrs. Poole, Feb. 24, 1878."

Dudley, S. James.—The Communion plate of this Church consists of a Cup, a Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern, all given by the Cartwright family in the year 1840.

Dudley, S. John.—Here there is a Cup and Paten of modern mediæval pattern. On the Paten is inscribed, "Dno et ecclesiæ "dicavit Thomas Gulielmus Fletcher A.D. 1840."

Dudley, S. Luke.—Here there are two Cups, a salver Paten, and a Flagon, all engraved with the sacred monogram, of modern plain pattern, and the H.M. of 1863.

Holly Hall.—Here there is a Cup with cover for Paten, an exact copy of a large Elizabethan Cup and cover of 1571. It is inscribed, "The offering of Archdeacon Lea, 1883." There is also a small Cup, Paten, and Flagon in plated ware.

Halesowen.—The Communion plate here consists of two Cups, two Patens, and a Flagon. The Cups are of Puritan pattern, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter at top of Cup. They are both inscribed, "The Parish of Halesowen, Francis Pierce Vicar, William "Smith and John Bibb Churchwardens, 1684." H.M. 1682. There is a large Paten plate, which is inscribed, "Ex dono Davidis Avery "Generosi Mercatoris Londini." "Nobilitas sola est atq̃ unica virtus." This plate has the H.M. of 1730. There is also a small Paten, with the date of 1879, and a large Flagon, 12 inches high, with a spout, of the date of 1849.

Langley has a Cup, salver Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern in plated ware.

Netherton, S. Andrew.—The Communion plate here was presented by Mr. Guest in 1830, and consists of a Cup, two Patens, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern.

Oldbury.—The Communion plate of this Church is all inscribed, "The gift of the Rev. W. Palmer, 1841," and consists of a Cup, a Paten, an Alms Dish, and a Flagon, all of modern plain pattern.

Old Hill has two Cups, one salver Paten, one Flagon, of modern plain pattern; each article inscribed, "In remembrance of me." They were given by Mrs. Bassano at the consecration of the Church.

Quinton has two Cups, a salver Paten, and a Flagon, all of modern plain pattern, in plated ware, provided when the Church was built.

Reddall Hill has three Cups, two salver Patens, one Alms Plate, one Flagon, of modern plain pattern, in plated ware.

Romsley, S. Kenelm's.—The plate at this out-of-the-way Church, as might be expected, is very interesting. There is a very curious Cup, of modified Puritan pattern, made of hammered silver. It has the H.M. of 1592, and is very narrow in proportion to its height, being 9 inches in height and only $3\frac{1}{4}$ in diameter at the top of the Cup, though the lips are unusually projecting. There is a salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1750, and a very curious Alms Basin of repoussé work, 8 inches in diameter. The date letter has become illegible, but apparently it is about the time of Queen Anne. There is also a Flagon of plated ware.

Rowley Regis.—Here there is a Cup and Paten. There is also a Flagon of pewter, with the date of 1765, and the inscription, "The blood of Christ is drink indeed." In addition to these there is a very curious small silver dish, now used for the Flagon to stand upon, but probably originally intended for an Alms Dish.

DEANERY OF EVESHAM.

Parish of Badsey.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the fringed stem pattern and dotted line ornament. As usual, there is no H.M. Also an old pewter Flagon and two Plates, apparently with a considerable alloy of silver.

Bengeworth has a large Cup with cover for Paten, quite plain, of Puritan pattern; H.M. 1627; also a second Cup with cover for Paten, of the same pattern, but of smaller size, with the H.M. of 1636.

Bretforton has a Cup with cover for Paten of plain Puritan pattern, inscribed, "1686 R. H. and S. B." There is no H.M., but the maker's punch, something like the letters "J.C." crossed. This Cup and cover are kept in a very curious old beehive straw case, fitting to their shape. There is also a Cup, Paten, and Flagon in plated ware.

Broadway.—The Cup here is large, of Georgian pattern, with a cover for Paten; it is inscribed "1731," and engraved with the sacred monogram. There is a large Alms Dish of the same date. The Flagon is tankard-shaped, and has the date of the preceding year, "1730." There is also a Cup, Paten, and a Box for breads, made of aluminum, of modern mediæval pattern, and a perforated Spoon. These last are the gifts of the Rev. F. H. Murray, Vicar of Chiselhurst.

Cleeve Prior.—The Cup here is late Elizabethan, of Puritan pattern, with the H.M. of 1590; there is no cover. The Paten and the Flagon are of plated ware. There are two Alms Plates of pewter.

Evesham, All Saints, has a Cup, of which the stem is probably late Elizabethan, but the Cup itself of later date, as it bears the H.M. of 1624. It is inscribed, "Phillip Gardiner, the elder, gave 40s. towards 'this Copp. Edmund Young and William Bartlett, Churchwardens.'" There is a large plate for Paten, with the H.M. of 1683, and a modern Flagon of mediæval pattern, inscribed, "For the use of All Saints' Church, Evesham, as a thankoffering to Almighty God from Fanny Marshall, for the recovery from smallpox of her husband, one of her servants, and herself. Xmas, A.D. 1847."

Evesham, S. Lawrence, has two Cups of modern plain pattern, inscribed, "The gift of Edward John Rudge, Esq., 1838." Also a salver Paten, the top having a plain edge, but the stem a cable border, inscribed, "S. Lawrence, Evesham, A.D. 1838, the gift of Edw. John Rudge, Esq." The H.M. on this is 1694, so it was probably taken from domestic use in 1838. There is a modern Flagon of mediæval pattern, inscribed, "For the honor of God and the service of the Parish Church of S. Lawrence, Evesham, this Flagon is offered by Margaret Rudge. Whit Sunday, 1847." There is also an Alms Dish, with the H.M. of 1854, and another of brass.

Hampton has a Cup and Paten of modern mediæval pattern, purchased by subscription in the year 1860. The text on the Cup is from the vulgate version, "Calicem Salutaris accipiam."

Honeybourne has a Cup and Paten of plated ware, and a large Flagon and Alms Plate of pewter.

Littleton, S.—The Cup here, with its cover for Paten, is a very good specimen of the Elizabethan fringed stem pattern, with a double line of dotted ornament. As usual, there is no H.M. This Cup is figured in Plate 1 (No. 2). There is also a pewter Flagon and Plate for Alms.

Littleton, N.—The Cup here is the usual Elizabethan pattern, with the band of floral ornament, and the H.M. of 1571. There are traces of gilding upon it, but, as this is not common with Cups of this date, it was probably done at a later period.

Norton with Lenchwick.—This Parish also possesses an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual floral band ornament pattern, H.M. 1571 ; also a plain Plate, from its appearance probably part of a service, with the H.M. of 1686, and inscribed, "The gift of A. Craven." The Flagon and Alms Plate are of pewter, and are inscribed "1679."

Offenham.—The plate here consists of a Cup, salver Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern.

Sedgeberrow.—The old Cup here and cover for Paten have the H.M. of 1664, and are inscribed, "The Church Cup of Sedgeberrow. Timothy Warton, Minister, Anthony Johnston and Henry Stocks, Churchwardens, 1664." On the reverse is inscribed, "The Cup and cover 11 oz. 17 d. 00 gr."

There is also a complete modern set of Cup, Paten, and Flagon, each of them inscribed on the reverse, "From Mary Barber, A.D. 1869, for the honor of God, and the use of Sedgeberrow Church." There is a text engraved on each article, and on the Paten the Lamb.

Wickhamford has an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten of the floral band ornament pattern, H.M. 1571. This Cup is much battered. The Flagon and Alms Plate are of pewter, and are inscribed, "1692."

DEANERY OF FECKENHAM.

The Parish of Abberton has an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, H.M. 1571, with the usual band of ornament. The rim of the cover for Paten has been broken off, as the cover, I am informed, has been used from time immemorial for collecting the alms of the congregation. There is a salver Paten, engraved with the arms of the Sheldons, who were formerly the owners of Abberton and many other parishes. There is no H.M. on it, but the maker's initials, "S.R.," are punched four times. These are the same initials which are punched

four times on the Cup at Himbleton, which we know from the charity board in that Church to have been made in 1656, and augmented in 1688. Probably this Paten is of the same date.

Abbot's Morton has a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware.

Bishampton.—This Parish has a Cup and cover for Paten of plain pattern, with the H.M. of 1778. The names of the then Vicar and Churchwardens are inscribed both on Cup and cover. There is a very curious, old saucer-shaped Dish, which is used for Paten. It is of repoussé work with two small projecting fringe-like handles. It is inscribed, "J. W., 1684," but the H.M. (which is indistinct) appears to be 1574. There is also an old Alms Plate of pewter, and a modern Alms Dish of brass.

Bradley.—The Cup here is the usual Elizabethan pattern, with cover for Paten, inscribed, and with H.M. of 1571. The Cup has been recently repaired; the inside gilt and the outside engraved with the sacred monogram. There is also a Paten, modern, inscribed, "A thankoffering to Almighty God for the Restoration of a beloved daughter, 1865." The Flagon is of modern mediæval pattern.

Church Lench.—Here there is a Cup, salver Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern.

Crophorne has a small Elizabethan Cup, with the usual floral band, and the H.M. of 1571. There is no cover. The maker's initials are unusually large (H.W.), and the leopard's head has been stamped twice. The stem is plain, without the indented ornament. There is also a Cup, salver Paten, Flagon, and two Alms Plates in plated ware.

Charlton has a Cup, Paten, Alms Dish, and large Flagon. This handsome plate was presented to the Church by the Farmers of the Parish of Charlton in January, 1873, soon after the Church was built.

Feckenham.—Here there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware. The old plate was sold about ten years ago.

Fladbury.—Some of the plate originally belonging to this Parish Church is to be found at the Chapelry of Wyre. The portion now remaining at the Parish Church consists of two Cups, two Patens, and a Flagon. On the Flagon is this inscription: "This Flagon, with two Salvers and two Cups, was the gift of Gertrude Stafford Smith to the Church of Fladbury, 1796." On examination, the Flagon has the H.M. of 1739, and one of the Cups the H.M. of 1800; the other

Cup is of much older date, but the H.M. is obliterated. It has the baluster stem, which belongs to the first half of the 17th century.

The history of the plate would seem to be this: Mrs. Smith probably purchased the old Cup and Flagon in 1796, and had a copy of the Cup made in 1800, putting the date of her original gift on the Flagon. The two salvers above mentioned having become thin were melted down into the existing Patens a few years ago.

Throckmorton.—This Chapelry of Fladbury has an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the fringe on stem pattern, and, as usual, without date or H.M. The maker's punch is illegible; there is a hole in the cover into the stand or button, which is often the case with this pattern. There is a small Paten of plain beaten silver, also without H.M., 6 inches in diameter, engraved with "C.T.E.," and the maker's initials once punched. There is an Alms Dish of brass.

Wyre Piddle.—The Cup here is without cover, but stands on a stem of the Elizabethan fringed pattern; it has no H.M. or maker's punch. The Cup itself is probably comparatively modern, and has been put on to the old stem of the Elizabethan Cup. There is a Plate (plain), 9 inches in diameter, inscribed, "Donum ignoti Eccles de Fladbury 'in com Vigorn, A.D. 1674.'" H.M. 1673. There is also a large Flagon, inscribed, "This plate given by Elizabeth Carrier to the 'Church of Fladbury, and performed by William Ganderton and 'G. Evans, her Executors.'" H.M. 1651 (3rd year of the Commonwealth).

Harvington has a large plain Cup of old date; there is no H.M., but the letter "W." once punched. There is a salver Paten and Flagon of plated ware, and a very curious old Flagon of pewter.

Inkberrow.—The plate belonging to this parish is of great interest. It consists of a Cup and cover, which is figured in Plate No. 2. The cover was never intended to be used as a Paten. The Cup is hemispherical, standing on a baluster stem. The height of the Cup is 3 inches, and its diameter at the top 6 inches. The baluster stem is about 4 inches high, the diameter of the foot being $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The cover is dome-shaped, and, including the pointed handle at the top, is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height. On the cover, between the top of the dome and the point, is a button-shaped fringe, very like that on the Elizabethan Cups of that pattern. This Cup was originally gilt, and is inscribed round the top, "E. D. Johannis Egiokke, Prestant Eterna "Caducis. The weight of this Cup and cover is 15 ozs. 15 dwts.

"Inkberrow." On the reverse of the foot the weight is inscribed as 16 ozs. The Egiok arms are engraved upon it, and it bears the H.M. of 1592 and the maker's initials, R. S.

There is also a second Cup with cover for Paten of Puritan pattern, engraved with the Savage crest, an unicorn's head, and inscribed, "The gift of John Savage, Esqr., of Egiok, deceased, December 22nd, "A.D. 1631." It bears the H.M. of 1629, and on the reverse of the foot its price is inscribed, £5 2s. 6d., the only instance of this notice of the cost which I have met with in the Archdeaconry.

There is also an old salver Paten with hammered stem, plain, quite flat, without rim, but with a slight depression in the centre. The H.M. is very indistinct, but is apparently 1609. It is inscribed, "E. D. Tho. Hunt De Lindsey gen. ad. y e Inkberrow 1665." There is also a Flagon of modern plain pattern, bearing the Birmingham H.M. of 1850, and inscribed on reverse of foot, "Inkberrow, 1850. "Rev. G. R. Gray, Vicar; Mr. Richard Adcock, Mr. John Laughier, "Churchwardens."

Cookhill is a Chapel of Inkberrow, and has a set of plate of its own, which was presented by Lady Hertford when the Chapel was built. It consists of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Plate of modern plain pattern.

Kington.—The Cup here bears the H.M. of 1785, and is inscribed, "Robert Baker, Robert Payton, Churchwardens." There is a salver Paten, inscribed, "1875, Kington Church, from Admiral Sir P. Wallis, "G.C.B." It is also engraved with his arms. It has the H.M. of the Dublin Mint, of the date apparently of 1722. There is a Flagon and two Alms Plates of plated ware.

Dormston.—This Church, which is held with Kington, has an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, inscribed on the button of cover, "1572," the only instance of this date that I know. There is also a Flagon and two Alms Plates of plated ware.

Rous Lench.—Here, too, there is the Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the date of 1571. There is also a salver Paten with cable border, inscribed, "The gift of Thomas Wall, 1704." The H.M. is obliterated, but it is probably about that date. The Flagon, which is tankard-shaped, is inscribed, "The gift of Thomas Wall, M.A., "Rector of Rous Lench, 1746." It bears the H.M. of 1745.

DEANERY OF KIDDERMINSTER.

Parish of Amblecote.—The plate here is of the same date as the Church, and consists of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern pattern.

Belbroughton with Fairfield.—The old Cup here is probably of the date of the Restoration, but the H.M. is illegible. It is $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter. The maker's initials, E. P., are twice repeated; it is gilt inside. There is a second Cup of smaller size, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in diameter, also gilt inside. It is inscribed, "E.B.," and was probably taken from domestic use. There is a salver Paten, $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, on a stem 2 inches high, with embossed border to Paten and foot, engraved in centre "T. A. E.," with the H.M. of 1643. The Flagon is of plated ware. There is also a glass Cruet, two Alms Dishes of brass, and a Plate of pewter, stamped "B.P."

At Fairfield there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern pattern, with the Birmingham H.M., and two Alms Dishes of brass.

Broome has a Cup and Paten, H.M. 1880, and a Flagon of plated ware, dated 1862. There is also a Cup with Paten of plated ware, dated 1880, and one large and two smaller Alms Basins of brass, engraved with texts and symbols.

Chaddesley Corbett has an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, of large size, with the usual floral band ornament, and H.M. of 1571; also a salver Paten of large size, and the H.M. of 1724. There are also a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, which were made out of the silver of an old Flagon in the year 1860.

Churchill.—Here there is a very good specimen of the Elizabethan Cup of the fringe on stem pattern, and dotted line ornament. It is larger than usual, being $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter. There is no H.M.; the maker's mark (which is indistinct) is punched once on the Cup and twice on the cover. The cover is unsuitable for "the distribution of the bread," as the hole into the button is not closed. It would be interesting to know how this Cup came here, as this pattern is not found elsewhere in the neighbourhood; it is generally confined to the Warwickshire border.

There is a second Cup of plain modern pattern, engraved with the sacred monogram and rays, having the Birmingham H.M. of 1861.

There is also a Salver on three feet, 11 inches in diameter, with the H.M. of 1808, engraved with the sacred monogram and rays. It was given by the family of the Rev. Thomas Foley, late Rector of

Old Swinford. This salver has a curious history. It formerly belonged to the Joanna Southcotes, and is inscribed, "The Prince of Peace," and "Rule Thou in the midst of thine enemies," and in the centre "June 8—4." The donor, Mr. Foley, is said to have been a believer in Joanna Southcote.

The Flagon is of plated ware. There is also a small Paten of plated ware, gilt.

Clent.—The plate here consists of a Cup and salver Paten. This last is inscribed, "Donum Mariæ Amphlett ecclesiæ Clent 1750." The Cup is not inscribed, but, from its date, is supposed to be the gift of the same donor. The Flagon is of plated ware.

Cookley.—The plate belonging to this Church consists of two Cups, a salver Paten, an Alms Plate, and a Flagon, all of them the gifts of W. Hancocks, Esq., in the year 1849, the date of the consecration of the Church. They are all of modern plain pattern.

Elmley Lovett has a Cup, salver Paten, and Flagon of plated ware, with the date of 1824.

Hagley.—Here there is a large Cup, silver gilt, of the Georgian pattern, inscribed, "This belongs to ye Church of Hagley in Worcester-shire 1746." Also a salver Paten and a large Alms Plate, silver gilt, presented, it is supposed, with the Cup by Sir Thomas Lyttelton. This Cup is a curious instance of the vicissitudes to which Church plate is sometimes exposed. It was parted with some years since in exchange for other vessels, and nothing was heard of it till last year, when the Bishop of Worcester received a letter from a London silversmith, stating that he had bought a Cup at the sale of Prince Demidoff's effects, in Florence, on which the name of a parish in his Diocese was engraved. This was the Hagley Cup, which has been now repurchased, and restored to its original home.

There are also two Cups, a Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware, and an Alms Dish of brass.

Blakedown.—This Chapel of Hagley has a small Cup and Paten, with Sheffield H.M. of 1860; also a Plate and Flagon in plated ware, and a brass Alms Dish.

Hartlebury.—The handsome plate belonging to this parish is interesting, as having been presented by Bishop Lloyd, the non-juror, only two years before his death. It is all of the Georgian pattern of the day, and consists of two large Cups with covers for Patens; two large Flagons, 12 inches high, tankard-shaped; one large Alms Dish,

18 inches in diameter, and one smaller one. They are all silver gilt, and bear the H.M. of 1714, and are inscribed, "Given to the Parish Church of Hartlebury by William Lord Bishop of Worcester and Ann Lloyd his wife in thankfulness to God for the many and great blessings they have enjoyed in this place, 1714."

Mitre-Oak.—Here there is a small Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the usual floral band, and the H.M. of 1571. This Cup was given by Archdeacon Lea, who bought it from a house in Droitwich. It had been purchased from a silversmith who had taken it in exchange from a farmer's family in the neighbourhood. It is believed to have been brought there out of Gloucestershire, but it is not known to what parish it originally belonged.

Kidderminster, S. Mary.—The plate here consists of three Cups, three Patens, a Flagon, and an Alms Dish. The Cups are of modern mediæval pattern, with the H.M. of 1849. Each of them has the following inscription in a band on the exterior, "Calicē salutis accipiā et nomē Dni invocabo." These Cups, it is believed, were made out of the metal of more ancient ones which belonged to the parish.

Of the Patens, two are salver Patens, one of them is inscribed, "Given by Thomas Jennens, of the City of London, Grocer, anno 1623." This Paten has an interest of its own, as it must have been one of the sacred vessels of the Church during Baxter's ministry. The third Paten is a small one, and bears the H.M. of 1860. The Flagon and Alms Dish are also of modern date. Round the Alms Dish is the inscription, "All things come of Thee, and of Thine own have we given unto Thee." There is also a perforated Spoon, with the H.M. of 1796.

Holy Trinity, Trimptley.—This Church possesses a set of Communion plate of modern mediæval pattern, consisting of a Cup, gilt inside, and a Paten to match, with the Birmingham H.M. of 1844. Also a Flagon of the same pattern, with the Birmingham H.M. of 1866.

S. Barnabas, Franche.—This Church possesses a set of Communion plate of modern mediæval pattern, consisting of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon. They are not inscribed, but they were given at the opening of the Church in 1872 by the Misses Fortescue.

S. James' Mission Chapel has a Cup and Paten of modern mediæval pattern; also a second Paten of plated ware.

Kidderminster, S. George.—The plate here consists of a large salver Paten, 12 inches in diameter, with richly embossed border, and the

H.M. of 1824. It is inscribed, "Reipublicæ munificentia et Civium
"Kiddermins liberalitate in oppido suo nuperime positæ."

This is the only remaining part of the original plate of 1824 when the Church was consecrated; the rest of the vessels were melted a quarter of a century ago into a Flagon, two Cups and two Patens of mediæval pattern.

There is also a large Alms Dish, 18 inches in diameter, which is inscribed, "Presented for the reception of the Alms of the Congregation
"by a former Curate, Easter, 1854."

S. John Baptist has a Cup and salver Paten, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern.

Lye.—The plate here consists of a Cup, a Paten, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern, which are inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Pratt,
"of Witley, in the year 1839."

Mitton.—This parish possesses two sets of Communion plate. The first is of plated ware, and consists of a peculiar jug-shaped Flagon inscribed, "Lower Mitton Chapel, 1826;" two Cups, each with two handles; three Patens, one of larger size than the others, inscribed, "Lower Mitton Chapel, 1844." Also an Alms Dish of pewter, with an ornamental rim. This old set, or a portion of it, was stolen some years ago, and when discovered not to be of silver, was left in a hay rick near, presumably that it might be found and restored.

The new set is of modern mediæval pattern, and consists of two Cups, two Patens, and a Flagon. On the reverse of the Cups is inscribed, "A thankoffering from a Parishioner of Lower Mitton, October 21st, 1863," and round the Cups, "Drink ye all of this." The Patens are inscribed, "Take eat this is my body," and on the reverse, "Lower Mitton Church, 1863." The Flagon is inscribed with the words, "This is my blood," and on the reverse, "Presented with two Chalices and two Patens by the Reverend Charles Turner Farley, M.A., for the use of the Parishioners of Lower Mitton Church." These are all parcel gilt.

There are also two Alms Dishes, one of brass, the other silver plated, parcel gilt, enamelled, given by the present Vicar for use in the new Church which is proposed to be built.

Wilden Chapel, in the parish of Mitton, has, at present, a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of mediæval pattern, and the H.M. of 1880.

Old Swinford.—Here there are two old Cups, the larger one of Puritan pattern, but of a type rarely found in this district, though

common in the Eastern Counties. It is $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter at the top. There is no H.M., but the maker's initial, R, is punched four times. The initials, probably of the donor, "D.H.," are marked upon it in faint dotted lines.

The second Cup is of the baluster stem pattern; it is 7 inches high, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter at the top. It bears the H.M. of 1646, and the letters "H.P.A." are marked upon it in faint dotted lines, with a coat of arms engraved below them.

The Flagon is large, and of the Georgian pattern; it bears the H.M. of 1708, and is inscribed below a coat of arms, "In usum ecclesie Parochialis Swinford Vet in Com Vigorn; ex dono Johan Wheeler, anno 1708."

There is a large Salver on three feet, 11 inches in diameter, with a gadrooned edge, inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Jane Pratt, of Great Witley, 1820, to the Church of Old Swinford."

Each of the above articles is engraved with the sacred monogram, surrounded with rays. It is plain, from the identity of writing and engraving, that these anachronistic additions were made in 1820, when Mrs. Pratt's Salver was given.

Pedmore.—The Cup here is of the baluster stem pattern, and bears the H.M. of 1591, and is inscribed, "Gloria Deo ex dono Joannis Perrott armiger." There is also a salver Paten with the Birmingham H.M. of 1851, and a smaller Paten and Flagon with the Birmingham H.M. of 1870. The Alms Dish is of brass.

Rushock has a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Alms Dish of modern mediæval pattern, in plated ware.

Rushock also possesses a white Linen Cloth, which is marked in needlework, "1791," "d.d.J.W.R."

Stamber Mill.—The Cup and Paten here have the H.M. of 1871, and were given by the Lyttelton family at the opening of the Church.

Stone.—The plate here consists of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Alms Plate, and were given in 1862 by Dean Peel, the Vicar. There is also a small Paten.

Stourbridge, S. John.—The plate here is of the date of the Church, 1862, and consists of two large Cups, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, a salver Paten, two large Alms Dishes, and a large handsome Flagon, 15 inches high.

Stourbridge, S. Thomas.—The plate here consists of two Cups, a salver Paten, and Flagon. One of the Cups is inscribed as "The gift of

"J. Hill in 1745." The Flagon is inscribed, "The gift of John Cook, 1748."

Wollaston, S. James.—The plate of this Church is the gift of the founder, W. O. Forster, Esq., and consists of two Cups, a Paten, a Plate, and a Flagon, with the H.M. of 1860.

Wolverley possesses two Cups, two Patens, an Alms Dish, and a Flagon, which are inscribed, "The gift of Sir William Sebright."

There is also a Cup, a Flagon, and a Paten of the date of 1842.

Wribbenhall has a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, the Flagon inscribed as follows:—"This Flagon, with a silver Chalice and Paten, were offered for the service of the Altar of Christ Church Chapel, Wribbenhall, by the congregation, on the Festival of Whit Sunday, A.D. 1843." H.M. 1842.

There is also a second Cup and Paten. The Cup is inscribed, "Calicem salutaris accipiam, et nomen Dni invocabo." The Paten is inscribed, "Agnus Dei, qui Tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis."

There is also a salver Paten, 10 inches in diameter, probably originally made for domestic use, and inscribed, "This salver was presented by William Longworth, Esq., to his friend and Parish Priest, the Reverend William Hallen, A.B., Leigh, Xmas, 1832, and by him offered for the Service of the Altar of Christ Church, Wribbenhall. Easter, 1841."

DEANERY OF NORTH KINETON.

Parish of Alderminster.—Here there is a Cup with cover for Paten of very unusual character. The Cup has the dotted line ornament round it, and the fringe on stem, which belongs to the Elizabethan Cup of 1571; but the shape and the foot are unlike any of this pattern I have met with, and it has the London H.M. of 1635. Possibly it may have been copied from the Cup of the neighbouring parish of Atherston-on-Stour, or a new Cup might have been put on the stem of an Elizabethan Cup, which belonged to the parish. In addition to this Cup there is a pewter salver Paten and two pewter Plates, but no Flagon.

Alveston.—Here there is a large Cup, 9 inches high, inscribed on reverse of foot, "Alveston Church Communion Plate, 1839." On side of Cup the sacred monogram is engraved. One smaller Cup, 7

inches high, two large salver Patens, all inscribed and engraved as above, and having the Birmingham H.M. of 1839. They are of modern plain pattern. There is also a glass Cruet for Flagon.

Atherston-on-Stour has an Elizabethan Cup (no cover) of the fringed stem pattern. The lower part of the stem has been renewed at some later period. The dotted line ornament runs round the Cup, but the shape is peculiar, the Cup being much smaller at the base and wider at the top than usual with this pattern. There is no H.M., but the maker's mark is punched once. There is a Paten of modern mediæval pattern, and a Paten and Flagon of the same pattern in plated ware, and a brass Alms Dish.

Barford possesses a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, with the H.M. of 1873. The Flagon is inscribed, "Donum "Richardi Unett Rectoris de Barford 1714 Denuo Conflandum Curavit "Cecil Mills Ipse Rector 1873."

Bishopton.—This parish has an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, H.M. 1571; also a Cup, a Paten, and a Flagon of modern pattern, H.M. 1844. There is also a Flagon and a salver Paten of pewter.

Butler's Marston has a large Cup (no H.M.), possibly, from its somewhat unusual shape, of foreign make; a salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1750; also a Flagon, inscribed, "E dono Rev. J. Thomas 1838."

Charlcote.—Here there is a Cup of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed, "Charlcote, 1854." Also two large Paten plates of the same date and pattern, all silver gilt, a glass Cruet Flagon, an Alms Plate of plated ware, and a brass Alms Dish.

Combrook with Compton Verney.—The plate of this Church consists of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon, inscribed, "The gifts of G. Verney, Esq."

Ettington.—The plate here is all modern, and consists of a Cup, which is very long in the stem in proportion to its size, a small salver Paten, an Alms Dish, and a Flagon, all inscribed, "Dedicated to the "service of God in the Church of the Holy Trinity at Ettington, by "Evelyn Philip Shirley. Feast of Easter, 1843." They are all engraved with S. Andrew's cross, and bear the H.M. of 1843. There is also a perforated Spoon and a small Paten. This last is in plated ware.

Hampton Lucy possesses a large Cup of modern mediæval pattern, silver gilt, with jewelled stem, inscribed, "Ecclesiæ Hamptonis Lucy "d.d. Johannes Lucy, 1865," and a Paten to fit on the Cup, with the

same inscription. There is another very small Paten, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and a brass Alms Dish.

Kineton has a Cup, inscribed, "The gift of J. Venour, Esq., 1729," and a Flagon, also from the same donor, A.D. 1729, and engraved with his arms. There is a plate for Paten, inscribed, "The gift of Elizabeth " Bentley, 1735."

Lighthorne.—This parish possesses a Cup, Paten, and Flagon, inscribed, "The gift of Lord Willoughby de Broke, 1808." There is also the cover for Paten of an Elizabethan 1571 Cup, but the Cup itself is gone.

Loxley.—Here there is a very plain Cup 7 inches high by $3\frac{1}{4}$ in diameter, a small salver Paten only $4\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, an Alms Plate, and a Flagon of tankard shape 9 inches high. Each article is inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Jane Norcliffe to the Parish Church of " Loxley in Warwickshire, 1740."

Morton Morrell.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, with the dotted line ornament, but the fringe on stem is gone, as the whole of the stem has been roughly renewed at some later date. As usual, there is no H.M., but the maker's mark twice punched. The Cup is very thin and battered. There is also a pewter salver Paten and Flagon. In addition to these there is a Cup, a salver Paten, a Plate, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern in plated ware.

Newbold Pacey.—The Cup here is a very curious specimen of the baluster stem pattern. It has the London H.M. of 1600. The Cup is of the same dimensions as the stem at bottom. It is beautifully made, and of thicker silver than usual, and in such good preservation that it might be taken for modern work. It is altogether peculiar in shape. A cover for Paten was added to it some years later, as it bears the H.M. of 1632, probably the date at which the Cup was given to the Church.

There is a Plate for Alms, with H.M. of 1753, inscribed, "The " humble gift of S. B. to the Church of Newbold Pacy, in Warwick- " shire." In addition to these there is a small salver Paten in plated ware, a salver Paten with border, and a small Flagon in pewter, and two Cruets of glass.

Pillerton Hersey with Pillerton Priors.—This parish has a Cup and a Paten plate, engraved with the arms of the Horsman family, and inscribed as given by them in 1725.

Stratford-on-Avon.—The plate of the Parish Church consists of two

Cups of Georgian pattern (the bowls unusually large in proportion to the height of the stems), two salver Patens, and two large Flagons, tankard shape, without spouts, all silver gilt, and in separate cases of wood, covered with brown leather. H.M. 1716. The above were all given by the Woolmer family, and are engraved with the sacred monogram, and inscribed on Flagon as follows:—"Gloriæ Dei opt
"max in usum Ecclesiæ Paroch de Stratford super Avon D D D qe
"Josephus Woolmer un fil Johan Woolmer nuper de Stratford prædict
"defunct Anno Dom 1716."

The Guild Chapel has two Cups, a salver Paten, a Plate, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern in plated ware.

S. James has a Cup of modern mediæval pattern, silver gilt, and a Paten to match, with the Birmingham H.M. 1855; a small Paten, inscribed, "In usum Ecclesiæ St. Jacobi D.D. W. K. W. Chafy-Chafy
"1871;" a small Tray for glass cruets, H.M. 1871; and two small Cruets with silver fittings.

S. Andrew, Shottery, has a Cup and a Paten of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed, "In usum Ecclesiæ S. Andreae ipso die Consecrationis
"d.d. Johannes Day Collis S.T.P. Vicarius 19 Apri 1871." There are also two glass Cruets and one water Cruet, with silver fittings, and a plain Paten, 1871; also a Box for carrying bread to sick, in modern plated ware.

Luddington has a Cup and Paten of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed, "The gift of John Day Collis, D.D., Vicar. 8 May, 1872." Also a plain Paten, inscribed, "The gift of the Rev. W. K. W. Chafy-
"Chafy, M.A., Ascensiontide, 1872," and two glass Cruets with silver fittings.

Walton D'Eivile.—Here there is a Cup, a Paten, and an Alms Dish of modern mediæval pattern (H.M. 1847), inscribed, "Hæc vasa
"sancta reformari curavit E.M. in honorem Dei et in usum Ecclesiæ
"Sancti Jacobi Waltonensis Pasch 1848." There is also a small Cup and Paten and glass Cruet, in a separate case, for the use of the sick, from the same donor.

Wasperton has an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten of the dotted line border and fringe on stem pattern. As usual, there is no H.M., but 1571 is inscribed on the button of cover. This Cup has been recently gilt, and engraved with the sacred monogram. The Flagon is 8 inches high, H.M. 1732, inscribed, "To God and His
"Church at Wasperton, in Warwickshire. He that seeth in secret

"will reward it openly." This also has been recently gilt, and engraved with the sacred monogram. There is an Alms Dish, H.M. 1754, inscribed, "Ecclesiæ de Wasperton ad altaris usum d.d. Thos. Leveson Lane 1842."

Wellesbourne.—The old plate which at that time was kept in the Church was stolen in the year 1844. It is some satisfaction to know that the thieves were detected and punished. The present plate was given in the same year, and consists of two Cups, two Patens, one Alms Dish, and two Flagons of modern mediæval pattern, and is inscribed, "S. Peter, Wellésborne, dios. of Worcester, dedicated to the "service of God, by Caroline Sophia Mordaunt. Easter, 1844."

Whitchurch has a very large Cup, 9½ inches high, probably taken from domestic use. The stem is thin, the shape peculiar; H.M. 1798. It is inscribed, "The humble and joint gift of Elizabeth Millward, of "John her son, and of Anne and Mary Such, to the Parish Church "of Whitchurch, in the county of Warwick." It is also engraved with the sacred monogram. There is also a Paten and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware, and two pewter salver Patens of the pattern and date of Queen Anne.

DEANERY OF SOUTH KINETON.

Parish of Barcheston.—Here there are two sets of plate; one with the H.M. of 1825, in a small case, apparently intended for the visitation of the sick. It consists of a Cup, 6½ inches in height, with indented sides and projecting lip, and a curious small gadroon on the stem, not unlike the fringe of the Elizabethan date; a small salver Paten, and a round flask-shaped vessel for wine. They are all engraved with the sacred monogram. The older set consists of two Cups, a Paten, and a Flagon. They are not inscribed.

Barton-on-Heath has a large Cup of Puritan pattern, inscribed, "1638," and a second Cup, inscribed, "The gift of Nicholas Overbury "Esq. to the Church in Barton-on-the-Heath, 1670." There is also a salver Paten, inscribed, "The legatee of Walter Overbury Esq. "1638," and a Flagon, inscribed, "The gift of Magdalen Overbury, "wife of Walter Overbury Esq. 1638."

Brailles has a Cup, inscribed, "Brayles, 1659," with a cover for Paten, inscribed, "Brayles. 1659;" also a larger Paten, inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Catherine Middleton to the use of the Communicants

"of Brailes, 1784." There are five pewter Alms Plates, inscribed, "John Walker, William Walker, Churchwardens. 1708, Brailes."

Cherington.—The plate here consists of a small Cup and Paten. There is also a larger Cup (goblet-shaped) and a Paten in plated ware.

Compton (Long).—Here there is the Elizabethan Cup of the usual pattern of 1571, with the floral band ornament. There is no cover for Paten. There is a Paten, inscribed on the reverse, "The gift of Jane Heydon, mother to Thomas Brain and Robt. Heydon, to the Parish of Long Compton, 1742." There is also a large tankard-shaped Flagon. In addition to these there is a Cup and Paten in plated ware, and a Flagon of glass.

Halford.—Here there is a Cup, salver Paten, Alms Plate, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware. There is also an old pewter tankard-shaped Flagon, 8 inches in height; a curious Bowl of pewter, probably intended for an Alms Dish, 8 inches in diameter, and 3 inches deep; and a pewter Plate. This Plate is curious, as having the silver H.M. of 1761 (the lion passant and leopard's head crowned). The maker's initial is F. There is a similar case at Queenhill.

Honington.—The plate here is very handsome, silver gilt, of the date of the Restoration, and consists of a large Cup, 9 inches high, and $5\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter at the top; a cover for Paten of the same; and a tankard-shaped Flagon, 11 inches high, with an Angel for thumb-piece. These all are engraved with the Parker arms, and are inscribed, "The gift of Sir Hugh Parker of London Barntt. to ye Church of Honnington in the County of Warwick. Ano. Dom. 1686." The H.M. is 1684, but they were given in 1686, the first year of James II. There is also a salver Paten, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, with the same H.M. (1684), inscribed, "Ex dono Barbare Hyde," and engraved with her arms. There is another Alms Plate, with H.M. 1696, which has been recently gilt, and is inscribed, "God loveth a cheerful giver." The H.M. on this is only the lion's head erased; there is no Britannia. There is also a glass Cruet Flagon.

Idlicote.—The old plate is gone. The present plate consists of a Cup, a small salver Paten, an Alms Dish, and a Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, and the H.M. of 1858.

Ilmington.—Here there is a very interesting Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the dotted line ornament and fringe on stem. As usual, there is no H.M., but only the maker's punch. The cover

was evidently not made to be used as a Paten, as the hole into the button is not filled up. It bears an inscription which I have not met with elsewhere: In the centre of the button is "1571," and round it "God save the Qvene."

There is a Flagon, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, tankard-shaped, inscribed, "The gift of Michael Sparke to the Parish of Ilmington 1640." There is also a Paten plate, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, inscribed, "Presented to the Parish by Edward James Townsend, M.A., Rector of Ilmington. Easter Sunday, A.D. 1847."

Newbold-on-Stour.—This parish, having been formed out of Tredington, possesses no old plate. There are two Cups, one inscribed, "Presented by the Principal and Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford, to the Church of Newbold-on-Stour, Worcestershire, 1835." This Cup is of a very unsuitable shape, being fluted and projecting at the bottom. It is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and 4 inches in diameter, and bears the H.M. of 1832. There is a Paten Plate with the same inscription. The second Cup is of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed on reverse of foot, "D. D. R. P., 1877." The Flagon is a glass Cruet.

Oxhill.—Here there is a Cup, 6 inches in height and 3 in diameter, of Puritan pattern, with a cover for Paten, inscribed on side, "Poculum Charitatis, Oxhill 1716." The Flagon is tankard-shaped, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and inscribed, "The gift of Mr. Nicholas Meese, Rector of Oxhill." The H.M. is 1716.

Shennington.—Here there is a small Elizabethan Cup, with the usual floral ornament running round it, only of larger proportion than usual. The stem is plain and without the usual ornament. The cover for Paten has the dotted line ornament round the top, and on the button is inscribed in figures, made of dotted lines (not incised as usual), the date 1576, the only instance of this date I have met with. The H.M. is 1576. There is also a salver Paten, Flagon, and Alms Plate in plated ware.

Shipston-on-Stour.—The oldest plate here is a salver Paten with a cable border, similar to others in parts of the Archdeaconry, with the H.M. of 1696. It is inscribed, "The gift of Mr. John Hart to the use of the Communicants of Shipston-on-Stour 1735 12 oz." This, like some others of the same pattern, was given to the Church some years after it was made, which favours the supposition that they were originally made for domestic use.

Besides this there is a Cup, Paten Plate, and Flagon, all with

the H.M. of 1822, and inscribed, "In usum Ecclesiæ Shiptoniensis
"super Stour d.d. Honorabilis Carolina Flower 1824." These
vessels have gadrooned edges, possibly to match the salver Paten.
The Cup is $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and the stem, which is long in
proportion, is of semi-mediaeval pattern, which is very uncommon
at this date. The Flagon has a spout, and is a very handsome
specimen of the date. It is 11 inches in height.

Tidmington.—Here there is a Cup, with the H.M. of 1753, 8
inches high, and narrow in proportion; also a salver Paten, which is
inscribed, "Presented by Mary Ann Stanton, 1845."

Tredington.—This old Parish Church, which was formerly the
centre of a district now divided into several parishes and chapelries,
has retained its old Communion plate, which is most interesting, as it
comprises the only two Elizabethan Flagons which I have met with
in the Archdeaconry. The old plate consists of a Cup with cover for
Paten, a larger Paten, and two Flagons, all except the cover inscribed
as follows:—"Donavit Gulielmus Smyth S.T.P. Rector hujus Ecclesiæ
"Tredington 1638."

On examination, the Cup, cover, and two Flagons bear the H.M. of
1591, the date letter being O in a plain shield. The larger Paten
only bears the H.M. of the year in which they were given, 1638.

Dr. Smyth, therefore, must have purchased the Cup and two
Flagons, which had been made nearly half a century, when he had
the second Paten made for the Church. The Cup is very large, 9
inches in height, silver gilt, quite plain with the exception of an
Elizabethan border moulding running round the foot. The cover is
plain, and without moulding.

The two Flagons have been parcel gilt; they are nine inches high;
the dome cover nearly flat; the thumb-piece richly ornamented; the
bodies pear-shaped. They have Elizabethan mouldings, like that on
the Cup, round the cover, stem, and foot. The maker's initial is H.;
that on the Cup and cover J.H.

The larger Paten, which has the H.M. of 1638, is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in
diameter, and is engraved with the sacred monogram, which first
appears about this date. It is inscribed as above.

There is also a second Cup of modern plain pattern, inscribed,
"Hunc scyphum Ecclesiæ de Tredington donavit Gulielmus Hopkins
"1852." This word *scyphum* is certainly classical, but it is the only
instance I have met with of its being used for a Communion Cup.

Tysoe with Compton Wynniettes.—The plate of Tysoe consists of a Cup, two Plates for Patens, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern in plated ware. There is also a large Cup of plain Puritan pattern, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and 5 inches in diameter, with cover for Paten, which has been lately presented to the parish. It bears the H.M. of 1669, and has been recently re-gilt.

The plate of Compton Wynniettes consists of a Cup and cover for Paten, a Paten Plate, 7 inches in diameter, and a tankard-shaped Flagon, 11 inches in height to the top of the dome, all bearing the H.M. of 1719, and are inscribed, "Ex dono Jacobi Dm. Compton "Ecclesiæ Paro: de Compton Wynyete in Comit Warwick Ao. Dm. "1720."

Whitcote.—The Cup here is 7 inches high, with the H.M. of 1719. There is a cover for Paten, without H.M. They are both inscribed, "Deo et Ecclesiæ de Wattcott in com Warwic Ao. Dni. "1719." It is plain from the size of the cover for Paten that it originally belonged to a much larger Cup, which would have been at least $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, the present Cup being only $3\frac{1}{4}$.

There is a glass Cruet with silver bands for Flagon.

Whichford.—The Cup and cover for Paten here are quite plain, and have been assigned, I am informed by archæologists, to the year 1562, but the H.M., though not very distinct, is more like 1676, and if not of that year is probably of the reign of Charles II. The Cup, too, is of the pattern common at the Restoration. In addition to this there is a Flagon and Alms Plate of modern pattern in plated ware, and a large Flagon and two Plates of pewter.

Woolford with Birmingham.—Here there is an old Cup and cover for Paten, very plain, of Puritan pattern, inscribed, "Woolford 1677," H.M. 1676. There is also a very curious hexagonal gilt Cup of repoussé work. It is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, the stem being $3\frac{1}{2}$, and the Cup 4 inches. There are allegorical figures round the foot, and the knop on the stem is ornamented with owls' heads and three men's heads projecting. It was probably made for domestic use, and afterwards given to the Church. There is no H.M., and, therefore, it is not unlikely to be of foreign manufacture. The following entry from the Parish Register relates to it:—"October 3, 1704. Mr. Ingram and "his Lady gave a silver Cup well gilt and embossed for ye use of ye "Church of Woolford at ye Sacramt. with a desire that the silver Cup "we now have might be converted into a Tankard or Flagon for ye

"same use reserving it in their hands till the foot should be mended. "Witness my hand Chas. Stephens Vicar." The mending of the above Cup seems to have been a long operation, as it extended over 31 years, as is shown by the following extract :—"The gilt Cup above mentioned being mended was restored to the use of the Church by "Mrs. Ingram at Easter 1735 with a desire that it might not be entrusted to hands of Churchwardens, but kept at Mr. Ingram's "except at the time of celebrating the Sacrament. Witness my hand "John Free, Curate."

"The silver Cup we now have," referred to above, was doubtless the Cup of 1676; it was, therefore, not converted into a Tankard or Flagon, but kept, as it is still, for its original use.

There is a salver Paten, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, which, from the inscription, might have been made out of silver articles given as oblations. It runs as follows :—"Deo Triuni Bonorum omnium "largitori dicatum ex oblatis encharisticis conflatum in usum Ecclesiæ "de Wolford in Die Wigorn." The H.M. is 1685. The following extract from the Register relates to it :—"Carolo Stephens procurante "Patina quædam Argentea ex eucharisticis oblationibus conflata est "in usum Ecclesiæ de Eodem."

DEANERY OF NORTHFIELD.

Parish of Acock's Green.—The plate at present consists of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon in plated ware. Soon, however, the Vicar writes, to be replaced by a set of silver gilt.

Alvechurch.—The plate belonging to this Church consists of two handsome Cups, and Patens to match, silver gilt, of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed on reverses, "Alvechurch, Whitsunday, 1861."

There is a small Paten of plated ware, and a large Alms Dish of brass. The old plate belonging to the Parish is said to have been stolen about half a century ago, this would probably have been replaced by plated ware, which was superseded by the present handsome plate when the Church was restored in 1861.

Balsall Heath has a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern, engraved with the sacred monogram. These have been provided by the Vicar in place of the original plated ware.

S. Thomas-in-the-Moors.—The plate here consists of a Cup, a small

Paten, and a Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, provided from plate bequeathed by the late Mr. Sands Cox, the founder of the Church, which was consecrated August 23rd, 1883.

Beoley.—Here there is a peculiar Cup and cover for Paten, plain, 8 inches high. It has no H.M., but the maker's initials, R. D., are punched four times. There is also a salver Paten, the Paten itself being more modern than the stem, which last has a cable or gadrooned border, and the stamp of the lion passant, but no other punch marks. Both Cup and Paten have been engraved at some later date with the sacred monogram; the Flagon is of plated ware.

Cofton Hackett.—The plate here is very interesting. In the first place there is a small Paten, 6 inches in diameter, of thin hammered silver, with rude engraving surrounding the figure of the head of Our Lord. There are traces of gilding upon it, but no H.M. If of English make it would belong probably to pre-Reformation times, but it may have been the Paten of some mediæval Chalice of foreign make, as it much resembles the Paten of the Leominster Cup. In the Inventory of Church Goods taken in the 6th year of Edward VI., "Cofton Chapel S. Michael" is returned as possessing among other goods "1 Chalys of silver & gilte," no Paten is mentioned; in most cases Patens are specially mentioned where they existed, so I am afraid we must not assume that this was the original Paten of Cofton Church. This Paten is figured in Plate IV. I can obtain no information about it beyond the fact that it was found about ten years ago at the bottom of an old register chest.

There is also a Cup inscribed, "To Cofton Hackett, the gift of the "Rev. John Thomas Fenwick, Patron and Rector of Northfield and Cofton "Hackett, 1827." This Cup must have belonged to some other Church, as it bears the H.M. of 1661. There is a Paten to match the Cup, inscribed, "Coston Hackett, 1827." This has the H.M. of 1827. The Flagon, which is a handsome specimen of the modern mediæval pattern, parcel gilt, was given by Mr. Stock, and is inscribed, "The Baptismal "Cups of Gertrude and Percy Stock, 1864."

Frankley.—Here there is a large Cup with cover for Paten, of plain Puritan pattern, with the H.M. of 1707. On the foot of the Cup is inscribed, "This belongs to Frankley, in the County of Worcester, "and Chappel of Saint Kenellum, 1708." The Flagon is of plated ware.

King's Heath.—The plate here consists of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and

Alms Dish of modern mediæval pattern, all of them the gifts of the Misses Anderton in 1860.

King's Norton possesses a very good specimen, one of the largest I have met with, of the Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten with the fringe or gadroon on stem, and the dotted line ornament. As usual with Cups of this pattern there is no H.M., but the maker's private mark, a small circle with a dot in the middle, is punched once. There is also a set of plated ware consisting of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Alms Dish.

Moseley.—The plate at this Church consists of a Cup with Paten, an Alms Dish, and a Flagon, bearing the H.M. of 1759. On the Flagon is inscribed, "The gift of Ann Marston, 1759. Sacred to the use of "Moseley Chapel." There is also a Spoon of the same date, and a salver Paten with the H.M. of 1806.

S. Ann, Mosley.—The Misses Anderton, who gave the plate to King's Heath, were also the donors of the plate to this Church, which consists of a Cup, two Patens, and a Flagon of modern mediæval pattern and the H.M. of 1874.

They also gave a handsome salver plate for an Alms Dish, which was probably taken from domestic use, and bears the H.M. of 1737.

Northfield.—Here there is an old Cup and cover for Paten of later Elizabethan work, apparently 1583. There is also a Flagon and a Salver on feet, both engraved with the Soley arms, and inscribed, "The "gift of the Rev. H. Soley, Rector." There is a silver gilt, very handsome Cup, with jewelled stem, and Paten to match, inscribed on the reverse of foot, "Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam et in Memoriam Henrici "Clarke qui ad altare ecclesiæ sancti Laurentii L Annos venerabile "sacrificium offerebat Fratres duo dedere."

Redditch.—At the Parish Church there is a Cup and Paten, and a Flagon of modern mediæval pattern; and at S. George's a modern Cup, two salver Patens, one with the H.M. of 1682, the other with 1691, both inscribed as "The gift of Ursula, Dowager Countess of "Plymouth, 1693." There is a modern Flagon which is inscribed, "The "gift of James Hyllier, 1846."

Selly Oak.—Here there is a Cup and Paten of modern plain pattern, and a second Cup and Paten of plated ware.

Selly Hill.—Here there is a set of vessels in plated ware, consisting of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Alms Dish of modern mediæval pattern.

Wythall.—Here there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern, in plated ware.

Yardley.—The plate of this Parish consists of two Cups, a Paten, and two large tankard-shaped Flagons. They were all the gifts of Mr. Job Marston. The Cups and Paten are inscribed, "Yardley Church," and on the Paten the sacred monogram is engraved. On both Flagons is the following inscription, "Job Marston, de Hall Green, in Comitatu Wigorn Generosus, vir charitatis eximiæ et pietatis vere primitivæ, quo solennis encharistiæ officium exhiberetur hanc lagenam in perpetuum mensæ mysticæ usum ecclesiæ Parochiali de Yardley legavit et Deo Redemptori sacrum esse voluit."

S. Cyprian, Hay Mills, has a Cup, Paten, and Flagon, of modern mediæval pattern, in plated ware¹

Yardley Wood has a Cup, two Plates for Patens, and a Flagon of modern plain pattern, in plated ware.

DEANERY OF PERSHORE.

The Parish of Comberton (Great) has a small Cup, goblet-shaped, 6 inches high; a salver Paten, 6 inches in diameter, with a bold beaded edge; also a smaller Paten, 4 inches in diameter, the H.M. of this last is indistinct, but it is probably 1756. The Cup and larger Paten were provided by the present Rector in 1830, as before that date the plate of Little Comberton was used at both Churches.

Comberton (Little).—The plate of this parish consists of a Cup of the usual Georgian pattern, 8 inches in height, and a salver Paten, 8 inches in diameter. They have the H.M. of 1772, and are both inscribed, "The gift of Thomas Burche Savage Esq. to the Church of "Little Comberton 1773." The Cup and Paten are kept in a wooden case, made to fit the shape, and covered with stamped leather. The Flagon is of modern mediæval pattern; it is not inscribed, but was presented by the Rector in the year 1855.

Defford-cum-Besford.—At Defford there is an Elizabethan Cup of the date of 1571, with the usual band of floral ornament, but of an uncommon shape, the Cup itself being long in proportion to its width, 4 inches in length and 3 inches in diameter at the top, with the stem only 2 inches in length. The Flagon and Paten, which have the date of 1881, are of plated ware. There are two Alms Plates of brass.

Besford.—The Cup here is in character with this most interesting Church, the nave of which is of half-timber work, and which has been recently most conscientiously restored. The Cup is evidently

Elizabethan, though the exact date of parts of it may be doubtful. The bowl has the Elizabethan floral band of 1571, but the stem is plain, and the cover for Paten has 1590 engraved on the button. There is no H.M. on Cup or cover, but on the Cup are two maker's punches, the first R. F., and the second in monogrammic form, R. D. On the cover only the second R. D. is punched, so possibly a 1571 Cup was repaired and a cover added in 1590, and the repairer, R. D., put his punch mark upon both. A Flagon has been made to match the Cup, with an Elizabethan border, and a button on the top of cover, which is inscribed "1881." There is a salver Paten of the same date.

Eckington.—Here again there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten of the usual pattern, with the H.M. of 1571; and there is an old pewter Flagon. There is also a more modern set, provided by subscription in the year 1873, consisting of a large Cup, a large and a small Paten, and a glass Cruet Flagon with silver bands. The H.M.'s vary from 1830 to 1835.

Elmley Castle.—The plate here consists of a Cup with cover for Paten, salver Paten, and Flagon, all of the Georgian pattern, and inscribed, "The gifts of T. B. Savage Esq. 1770."

Flyford Flavel.—Here again is an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, without H.M., and rather different in shape from the usual pattern. There is a line of dotted ornament on the cover, and two lines of the same ornament on the Cup, but the stem has no fringe, as is usual with Cups with this ornament. On the foot is a floral ornament, very like that on the Elizabethan Cups of 1571. Probably this Cup is a composite one, the Cup and cover being of the fringe stem pattern, and the stem and foot of a different make and date.

Grafton Flyford.—Here again is an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, with the H.M. of 1571, of the usual floral band pattern.

Nafford with Birlingham.—Here there are two sets of plate, the old one consisting of a large Cup, of the baluster stem pattern, with the H.M. of 1641, a cover for Paten for the same, which, as usual, is of much later date, having the H.M. of 1742, and a Plate, slightly depressed in the middle, with a very broad flat rim, as at Birtsmorton, with the H.M. of 1667. The Cup and Plate have "M. R. B." marked in faint dotted lines. These are the initials of Richard and Bridget Mason, who lived at Birlingham through the Commonwealth and after the Restoration. We may suppose that the

Cup, which had been probably in domestic use since 1641, was given by them, together with the plate, in 1667.

The modern set is of mediæval pattern, and consists of a Cup, with Paten to match, and a Flagon, the Paten being inscribed on the reverse, "To the glory of God the gift of Parishioners and friends for the use of the Church of S. James Birlingham in pious memory of Robert Eyres Landor, died 26 of January 1869, aged 87 years."

There are also three Alms Dishes of brass.

Naunton Beauchamp.—The Communion plate here consists of a Cup and cover for Paten of the Puritan pattern, with the H.M. of 1663. We may suppose that it was provided by the Rev. F. Robinson, M.A., "who, after being deprived for his fidelity to the King," as the inscription on his monument in the Church states, "was restored to his Living on the return of Charles the Second to the Throne."

Peopleton.—The plate here, till very recently, consisted of a Cup and Paten in plated ware, but the Rector has presented a handsome Cup and Paten, silver gilt, to the parish, inscribed on Paten, "This Chalice and Paten presented to the Church of S. Peter and the Parish of Peopleton by James Cook, Rector. A.D. 1883."

Pershore, Holy Cross.—The plate here is of later date than that of the neighbouring Churches. It consists of a Cup, a Paten to match, and a Flagon, with the H.M. of 1870, of modern mediæval pattern, with the following inscription on the Flagon:—"Given to the Church of Holy Cross, Pershore, by a Parishioner as a thankoffering unto the Lord." There is also a second Cup, a copy of the 1870 Cup, given in the year 1882 by another member of the same family.

S. Andrew.—At this Church there is a Cup with cover for Paten belonging to it, and the H.M. of 1719. The Cup is inscribed, "Saint Andrew's Parshore 1719. Henry Chappel and John Wilks Churchwardens." (N.B.—This cover is now at Broughton Chapel, where it is used as the Paten). There is also a large Flagon and two salver Patens, with the H.M. of 1719, inscribed, "Saint Andrew's, Parshore, Worcestershire, 1719." There is also a second Cup, with the H.M. of 1724, longer in the stem and smaller in the bowl than the 1719 Cup. There are also two old pewter Plates.

Broughton, which is a Chapelry of Pershore, possesses a modern Cup, a Flagon of plated ware, and a brass Alms Dish. The Paten which is used here belongs to the Cup of S. Andrew's, Pershore, as mentioned above.

Pinvin.—This old Church is also a Chapelry of Pershore, and possesses a very small Elizabethan Cup of the usual pattern, with cover for Paten, and the H.M. of 1571. There is also a Paten and Flagon of plated ware, and an Alms Dish of brass.

Stoulton.—Here again there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten. The cover has the H.M. of 1571; the H.M. of the Cup is not so distinct as usual, it is either N or U, it is difficult to say which, either 1570-71 or 1577-78, probably the former, though Cup and cover are evidently by different makers, as the makers' punch marks are not the same. There is a small salver Paten, 5½ inches in diameter, with the H.M. of 1732. The Flagon is of modern mediæval pattern in plated ware.

Stoulton also possesses an old Cope of brown velvet, embroidered with figures and conventional flowers, which for many years was used as a cover for the Communion Table.

Upton Snodsbury.—The old plate of this Church is said to have been stolen some years ago. The present plate consists of a Cup with Paten to match of modern mediæval pattern, which was provided in 1882, a glass Cruet with silver bands for Flagon, and an Alms Dish of brass.

Wick.—Here there is a good specimen of the Elizabethan Cup, with cover for Paten, of the usual floral band pattern, and the H.M. apparently of 1571. There is also a salver Paten, with the date of 1868, and a Flagon of plated ware, which was given in 1882.

DEANERY OF POWICK.

Parish of Acton Beauchamp.—Here there is a large Cup of Puritan pattern of hammered silver, with cover for Paten, the stem is large, and without knop, the sacred monogram is engraved on Cup and cover, there is no H.M., but the maker's initials, T. L., are punched once, it is probably about the date of the Restoration. The Flagon is of pewter, very narrow in proportion to its height. There is one pewter Plate.

Cowleigh, S. Peter.—Here there is a very handsome Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, of the same date as the Church, 1864.

Guarlford.—The plate here consists of a Cup, salver Paten, Flagon,

and Basin for Alms of modern plain pattern, with the H.M. of 1844. There is also a Basin for Alms of plated ware, and a larger one of brass.

Leigh with Bransford.—Here there is a Cup with cover for Paten of the usual Elizabethan pattern, and the H.M. of 1571. There is also a small old Cup of peculiar shape, without H.M. In addition to these there is a Paten and a Flagon.

At Bransford, which is a Chapelry of the parish of Leigh, there is also an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten of the usual pattern, and the H.M. of 1571.

Madresfield.—The plate here is all modern, very handsome, of mediæval pattern, and consists of a Cup, two Patens, and a Flagon.

Malvern, Great.—Here there are two Cups, two Patens to match, and a Flagon, all very handsome, and of modern mediæval pattern, partly gilt, bearing the Birmingham H.M. of 1864. The knops on the stems of the Cups are set with medallions, showing the emblems of the Passion. One of the Patens is of later date, and is inscribed, "A. A. S., 1873." There is a round Dish of repoussé work, with a Gothic arcade and other patterns running round it, inscribed, "Henricus Card S. T. P. Vicarius d.d. Anno. Sacro 1841." The H.M. of this is indistinct.

Malvern, North.—Here there is a Cup with the H.M. of 1665, also a Cup and two Patens of modern mediæval pattern, silver gilt.

Malvern Link.—Here there is a Cup, with Paten to match, two Plates, and a Flagon of modern mediæval pattern.

Malvern, Little.—This Church still possesses its Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual pattern, and the H.M. of 1571.

Malvern Wells.—The plate here is inscribed as "The gift of the Lord Bishop of Durham in the year 1835." It is of modern plain pattern, and consists of a Cup, a Paten, a Flagon, and an Alms Plate. A second Cup to match has been added since.

There is also a Spoon, and two Plates of plated ware.

Malvern, West.—Here again the plate is modern, of mediæval pattern, and consists of a Cup, two Patens, and a Flagon, of the date of 1844.

Malvern, Christ Church.—Here there is a set of plated ware of modern plain pattern, consisting of a Cup, silver Paten, and Flagon.

Mathon.—The plate here, too, is modern. It consists of a Cup, Paten, Flagon, and Alms Dish, silver gilt, of mediæval pattern, the

gifts of Miss Vale. There is also a Paten and Alms Dish with the date of 1851, and a Flagon and Alms Plate of old pewter.

Newland.—Here there are three sets of sacred vessels. I. The first set consists of a Cup, a Ciborium or Bread Bowl, and a Paten, all silver gilt, and contained in a case, on which is the following inscription:—"E donis fidelium apud Newland in Christo Meorum "Diligentium Dilectorum in Festum SS. Michaelis et omnium "Angelorum, Anno Salutis nostræ 1877." From this and the inscription on the Paten, it appears that this set of vessels was presented to the Rev. James Skinner, and by Mrs. Skinner to the Church. The Cup is of foreign make, with no date inscribed. It is $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, with a hemispherical bowl set in appliqué work. The knop on the stem is engraved and jewelled; the foot, which is hexagonal, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, is embossed, enamelled, and jewelled. There are 57 jewels in all. The Paten, which is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, is inscribed on the reverse, "Hanc patinam sacris cum "vasibus additis duobus calice ac ciborio argento inaurato necnon "gemmato excusis, fideles apud Newland diligentes et dilecti eorum "animarum curam deponenti Iacobo Skinner A.M. Sacerdoti, in "festum S. Michaelis et omnium Angelorum 1877."

The Ciborium, or Bread Bowl, including the cover, is 11 inches high, the Cup itself being $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter. The foot is hexagonal, and 5 inches in diameter; it is embossed, enamelled, and jewelled, as is also the knop. The cover is embossed, and surmounted by a jewelled cross. There are 75 jewels in all.

II. The second set consists of a Cup and Paten, silver gilt, of modern mediæval pattern. The Cup is 8 inches in height, and on the knop on the stem are six shields bearing the emblems of the Passion. On the bowl is engraved, "I will receive the Cup of Salvation, and "call upon the name of the Lord." The Paten fits on to the Cup, is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and on it is engraved, "Take, eat, this is "My Body."

III. The third set consists of a Cup and Paten, which are not gilt. They are the same pattern as the last, the only difference being that on the Cup is engraved "This is My Blood, which is shed for you." Both these sets bear the H.M. of 1863. There is a large silver Flagon, $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height, of the same pattern, and engraved, "Glory be to "God on High." This bears the H.M. of 1857. There is also a Paten, 7 inches in diameter, inscribed on the reverse, "Presented to

"the Church of Newland as a small thankoffering, by Henry Carter, "A.D. 1863." H.M. 1863. There is a Cruet Boat of plated ware, containing two glass Cruets, and a perforated Spoon. Also a glass Flagon with silver-gilt lid, and a small glass Cruet with silver-gilt mountings. Both bear the H.M. of 1877. There is also a larger glass Flagon with mountings of plated ware.

Powick.—Here there is a large Cup with cover for Paten, bearing the H.M. of 1674, and a large salver Paten of the same date. There is also a Flagon, which is inscribed, "The gift of G. E. Martin, Esq., "1878."

Suckley with Alfrick and Lulsley.—In this Parish and its two Chapelries the original plate has been retained. At Suckley there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the H.M. of 1571. There is also an old Flagon and Plate of pewter.

At Alfrick there is another Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten of 1571, and a small Paten of later date.

At Lulsley there is a third Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, also of 1571. There is also a pewter Plate. These three Cups are all of the usual pattern, with the floral band ornament, and have 1571 inscribed on the buttons of the covers. They are all by the same maker, whose initials are H. W.

DEANERY OF UPTON.

Parish of Berrow.—The Cup here is of plain pattern, and bears the H.M. of 1709. The Paten is of older date, 1682. In addition to these there is a Flagon and a large Plate, both with the H.M. of 1750.

Birtsmorton.—Here, as might be expected from the situation of the parish, there is the Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the H.M. of 1571. It is of the usual pattern, of medium size, with the floral band ornament, the button of cover is inscribed 1571. There is a large flat Paten Plate, 11 inches in diameter, with a slight depression in the centre. It is engraved with the Nanfan arms, and inscribed, "K. N. H., 1693." The H.M. is 1660.

There is another Plate, inscribed, "Belonging to the Church of "Brutesmorton in Worcestershire 1740." H.M. 1740.

There is a large Flagon, tankard-shaped, with the same inscription and H.M. as the last Plate.

Bushley.—The only old plate remaining here is a Flagon, with the H.M. of 1723, and inscribed as given by A. Dowdeswell, Esq. The Cup and Paten are of modern mediæval pattern.

Castlemorton.—The Cup here is of modern plain pattern, gilt within, with a dome-shaped cover, which has no handle or button. It has the H.M. of 1821, and is inscribed, "The gift of the Rev. Charles "Crewe, Vicar of Longdon, to the Church of Castle-Morton, January 4, "1822. Jno. Hill, Jno. Dee, Churchwardens."

There is a large pewter Flagon and a Plate, inscribed with several initials, and dated 1684. There is a glass Cruet and two Flagon Cruets and three small Plates of modern pewter, the Cruets being inscribed, "The gift of A. W., 1868."

Chaceley.—Here there is a large plain Cup of Puritan pattern, with the H.M. of 1696, a Paten of plated ware, and two pewter Plates.

Eldersfield.—Here there is a Cup of plain pattern, with the H.M. of 1717, and a small Paten, with the H.M. of 1880, inscribed, "E. Holmes d.d." There is also a Cup, Paten, and Flagon in plated ware.

Hanley Castle.—The plate here is all of plain modern pattern, with the H.M. of 1846, and consists of a Cup, a salver Paten, and Flagon. The Elizabethan Cup of 1571 which formerly belonged to the parish was sold, and is now in possession of Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, and is used in his private Chapel.

S. Gabriel, a Chapelry of Hanley, has a similar set of vessels—a Cup, a Paten, and a Flagon, given recently, when the Church was built.

Longdon.—Here there is a large Cup and cover for Paten, without H.M., but inscribed, "d.d. J. Pynnocks 1627." There is also a Cup, with two Plates and a Flagon, bearing the H.M. of 1791, and inscribed, "The gifts of T. Parker, Silver Street, Worcester." There is also an old pewter Flagon.

Pendock.—The Cup here, like that at Ipsley, is of porringer shape, with two handles, and the H.M. of 1727. Probably it was taken from domestic use. There is a Plate for Paten and a large tankard-shaped Flagon, which both bear the H.M. of 1748, and are inscribed as "Given by Lord Bellamont." There is also a Bread Knife with a silver handle, which bears the H.M. of 1750.

Red Marley.—Here there is a large Cup of Elizabethan pattern, with cover for Paten. The cover is inscribed 1571 on the button.

There is no H.M. on the Cup itself, but from its appearance it was probably renewed on the old stem at some later date, the original pattern being followed.

Staunton.—Here there is a Cup of the baluster stem pattern, and the H.M. of 1645. There is a cover for Paten fitting to the same, but probably of later date. It has lost some of its original character by repairs. There is a salver Paten with cable border, probably of the date of Queen Anne, but the H.M. is quite illegible. It is inscribed, "Ex dono Jacobi Beard de Staunton pro verâ in altare Jesu Christi "reverentiâ." There is also a large Flagon, tankard-shaped, H.M. 1729, inscribed, "In gloriam Dei Redemptoris Ecclesiæ de Staunton "Donatum 1729."

Upton-on-Severn.—Here there is a large Cup and cover for Paten, with the H.M. of 1715, and inscribed, "Given to the Parish of Upton-upon-Seavern in the County of Worcester, by Mr. Richard Smith, "Rector of the same place and Anne his wife in ye year 1715." Also a large tankard-shaped Flagon of the same date, and with the same inscription. There is a small salver Paten, 6 inches in diameter, inscribed on the reverse, "C. W. and J. M."

In addition to these there is a Cup and Paten to match of modern mediæval pattern, inscribed, "Church of S. Peter and S. Paul, Upton-on-Severn, 30 August, 1881, W. J. P., M.P." There is also a perforated Spoon.

It would seem from an entry in the Parish Books for the year 1758 that the 1571 Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten were sold in that year for the sum of £2 3s. 0d., a large portion of which was expended in horse hire and expenses for journeys to Worcester, and the remainder applied towards "the purchase of a King's Arms" for the Church.

Welland.—Here there is a small Elizabethan Cup, with the usual floral ornament, and the H.M. of 1571; but the stem apparently has been renewed at some later date. There is no cover for Paten.

There is also a very remarkable Cup and cover of repoussé work. The Cup and stem are 9½ inches in height, and the cover, which is dome-shaped, and has a high steeple-shaped top of beautiful tabernacle work, is 7 inches in height. Both Cup and cover are covered with floral and other ornaments. The bowl of the Cup gradually expands from a narrow point at the base, where it joins on to the stem. The stem has three flying supports rising from the knop. It is silver gilt,

and in very good condition. It is inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Jane "and Mrs. Penelope Taylor to the Parish Church of Welland in "Wr-shire." A small coat of arms 'is engraved on one side. Apparently there are two date letters in the H.M., at least two letters of the same character, though probably one is meant for the maker's initial. The earlier would give the date of this very beautiful Cup as 1721, the latter as 1731. It was probably originally intended for domestic use.

In addition to these Welland also possesses a Cup, a salver Paten, and a large Flagon of plated ware.

DEANERY OF WARWICK.

Parish of Bearley.—Here there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of plated ware.

Beaudesert.—The old plate here consists of an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the fringe on stem pattern, with the dotted line ornament. As usual there is no H.M., but the maker's mark punched once. There is also a Flagon and small Plate of pewter, marked "London," and inscribed with the sacred monogram. There is a more modern set, consisting of a large Cup, 9 inches high, a salver Paten, 9 inches in diameter, and an Alms Dish of the same size, all engraved with the sacred monogram, surrounded with rays, and inscribed, "Presented to the Parish of Beaudesert by William "Welch Lea Esq. 25 December 1838." H.M. 1833.

Budbrooke.—There is no old plate remaining here. The Cup, Paten, and Flagon are of modern plain pattern.

Claverdon with Norton Lindsey.—The plate here is very interesting. At Claverdon there is a Cup and cover for Paten, silver gilt, with the H.M. of 1583. The Cup is of very unusual shape, with something like a junction in the middle. The stem has a fringe upon it, with broad and narrow points alternately. There is no dotted line ornament. It is $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height, and $4\frac{3}{8}$ in diameter. Altogether this Cup is unlike any other in the Archdeaconry, as there were traces of gilding upon it. It has recently been re-gilt.

There is a second Cup, a copy of the 1583, the gift of the present Vicar, the Rev. E. Kempson. This is also gilt.

There is a large salver Paten, also gilt, with the H.M. of 1685,

inscribed, "The gift of William Parker of Kington Gent. to the "Communion Table of the Parish Church of Clardon in the county "of Warwick in the year 1685."

The Flagon is tankard-shaped, with the H.M. of 1683, and is inscribed, "The gift of Sarah the wife of Mr. Thomas Walford of "Binton, and one of the daughters of Mr. Samuel Parker of Kington "to the Church of Clieverdon 15 Jany. 1683."

At Norton Lindsey there is also an Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten of the fringe on stem pattern. As usual there is no H.M., but on the button of the cover is inscribed, "1571 Norton Linse."

Haseley.—Here there is a very curious Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, of unusual shape, but there is no H.M.

Hatton.—The plate here is interesting, and of different dates. There is a small Cup and cover for Paten, very plain, the Cup being very narrow in proportion to its height, with the H.M. of 1739. There is also a tankard Flagon, with the H.M. of 1739, inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Jane Norcliffe." (This lady was also the donor of plate to the parish of Loxley in 1740). There is also a Plate, with the H.M. of 1669, and two very handsome large silver Candlesticks, with the H.M. of 1696, all given by the same Mrs. Jane Norcliffe, in 1745. Perhaps they might have been given at Christmas that year, as thankofferings for having been spared from a visit of the Pretender's army.

In addition to these are several articles of plate given during the Incumbency of Dr. Parr. These last consist of a Cup and cover of plain pattern, inscribed as "Given by Dr. Parr's family ;" a large Flagon, with a narrow neck and handle, probably originally intended for a coffee pot, and a large Alms Dish, having the appearance of a "rose water dish," inscribed as "Given by Dr. Parr, his friends and "Pupils, in 1809." These last have no H.M., and are probably of French manufacture. It may also be mentioned that Dr. Parr made a Terrier of all the properties of the Church, the only one I have heard of in the Archdeaconry. He also had the old Registers bound, and made abstracts of their contents.

Henley-in-Arden.—A large plain Cup of Puritan pattern, 8½ inches high, 4½ in diameter, inscribed, "Ex dono Edwardi Sale 1732 in usum "Capellæ de Henley-in-Arden." Also a Plate, 8 inches in diameter, engraved with the sacred monogram, and inscribed on the reverse, "The gift of Mrs. Mary Road Knight of Henley-in-Arden, to Henley

"Chapel 1792." There is a salver Paten, 8 inches in diameter, engraved with the sacred monogram, and inscribed, "Presented by "Mrs. Horsley to the Chapel of S. John, Henley-in-Arden, during the "incumbency of the Rev. T. Jones, M.A., 22nd June, 1848." There is a Flagon, tankard-shaped, 11½ inches high, engraved with a Cherub's head and wings, and inscribed, "To the glory of God and this holy "use, this Flagon is given in remembrance of God's mercys to the "donor. Henley Chappel." The date letter is indistinct, but it is probably of the Restoration period.

Lapworth.—Here there is a very large plain Cup, of the baluster stem pattern, with the H.M. of 1654 (the Commonwealth). There is a small Paten, of which the H.M. is not clear; it most resembles 1643. There is also a small Paten in plated ware. Also a cruet-shaped Flagon of glass, with silver bands, inscribed, "d.d. A. Mildmay."

Preston Bagot.—Here the only plate is the original Elizabethan Cup, with its cover for Paten, of the smallest size, of the fringe on stem pattern, with the dotted line ornament. As usual, there is no H.M., but on the button of the cover is inscribed, "I. D. T. D. T. B. Preston "Baggett 1571."

Rowington.—The plate here consists of a plain Cup and cover, with the H.M. of 1676, and a salver Paten of the date of Queen Anne, with the cable border round the Paten and stem, and inscribed, "Presented by R. Lees 1774." There is a Flagon of plated ware.

Sherborne.—At this beautiful new Church, built by Miss Ryland, there is a large Cup, inscribed, "Presented to the Parish Church of "Sherborne by Anne Ryland 1852," and a large Flagon with the same inscription. There is also another large Cup and a salver Paten, inscribed, "Sherborne Church, 1871." The above are all of modern mediæval pattern, with the Birmingham H.M. for their respective years. There is also a salver Paten and an Alms Dish of plated ware.

Snitterfield.—Here there is a large Cup and cover, with the H.M. of 1735, and a large tankard Flagon and a Plate, with the H.M. of 1751, all of the Georgian pattern, and inscribed, "Presented by the Dowager "Lady Coventry."

Warwick, S. Mary.—The old plate of this Church is said to have been stolen in 1842. The present plate was given by the town of Warwick in 1843, and consists of two Cups, one large salver Paten, two smaller Patens, two Plates, and a large Flagon.

S. Nicholas.—Here there are two Cups, which are inscribed as given

in the year 1657 (Commonwealth), but they bear the H.M. of 1632. They are of the baluster stem pattern. There is also a Flagon, tankard-shaped, with the H.M. of 1743, which is inscribed, "The gift of Ann Parker and Sarah Raper." There are two Plates of the date of 1847, and an Alms Dish of 1871. I may also mention that this is the only Church in which I have seen perfect copies of the original paper Registers, from which the parchment copies which are now in existence were transcribed.

S. Paul's.—The plate here was given by Miss Innes in the year 1844, when the Church was built. It consists of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern plain pattern.

Emscote, All Saints.—Here there is a Cup and Paten, given by the Miss Greenways when the Church was consecrated. This is all the plate which belongs to the Church, but Dr. Dickens possesses a Cup of 18-carat gold, richly chased, embossed, and jewelled, which was presented to him by one of his Congregation. Also a second Cup, with Paten to match, of modern mediæval pattern, with jewelled stem, presented to him by the "Early Communicants." He has also a very curious mediæval parcel gilt Chalice, of Flemish make, with a knop highly decorated, which is said to be English 14th century work, the bowl, stem, and base being 16th century Flemish work, and dated 1562 on the foot. There is an inscription, which is imperfect in many parts, to the effect that it was given by one De Paco out of money left him by an uncle. This Cup was purchased at Warwick, but was traced to Yarmouth, to which port it was probably brought from the Low Countries. If the knop is genuine old English work, it probably formed a portion of some of the Cathedral or Monastery plate seized by Henry VIII., which was sold to a Flemish merchant, and worked up into the present Cup in 1562.

Here I must also notice the Cup of the adjoining parish of Leamington, though it is just outside the Archdeaconry of Worcester. On mentioning on one occasion to Mr. Lambert that I had met with nothing older than 1571, he told me that about 40 years ago he had sold a Cup of the date of Henry VIII. to the then Vicar of Leamington. This Cup originally belonged to the English Chapel at Calais, and came into his possession when the late Emperor of the French presented a new set of vessels to the Congregation.

Since the first portion of this work has been printed I have seen this Cup, which is one of the most beautiful specimens of the

goldsmith's art I have ever met with, bears the English H.M. of 1532. The date letter, P, is easily recognised, but only the outline of the leopard's head can be traced; the maker's mark cannot be deciphered. As the date (1532) coincides with the King's visit to France, where he had a Conference with Francis I. at Calais, just before his marriage with Anne Boleyn, one would like to suppose that this Cup was a royal present in commemoration of his visit. There is no evidence of this, but I offer it as a possible conjecture. ;

The Cup is silver gilt, and richly embossed with figures. The height is 14 inches, the Cup being small in proportion to the stem. Round the lower part of the Cup itself are representations from the life of our Lord, e.g., the Last Supper, the washing the Disciples' feet, and others. On the large central knop are figures of Faith, Hope, Charity, and Justice. Round the foot, which is very large, are subjects from the Old Testament—Adam naming the animals, the temptation of Eve, Melchisedec and Abraham, Moses striking the rock, and the Israelites gathering Manna.

The work is so exquisite that if Benvenuto Cellini had been in these parts in 1532, it might be fairly assigned to him; but Mr. Lambert is of opinion that it was the work of Flemish goldsmiths, who at that time were numerous in Calais and its neighbourhood, and that the Cup was tested and stamped at the Calais Mint, of which Ralph Rowlatt was then the Master. It was this Rowlatt to whom the King at the dissolution of the Monasteries granted the estates of Gorhambury (afterwards sold by his daughter to Sir Nicholas Bacon) and Sandridge, in Somersetshire.

But my reason for mentioning this Cup is that a part of it throws some light on a class of Cups of which the date is doubtful. Immediately below the great central knop there is the *fringe*, exactly like that on the Cups which I have described as "having fringe on "stem," one of which is figured in Plate I., No. 2. As the fringe is found on this undoubted work of 1532, may not the stems with this peculiar ornament belong to pre-Reformation times?

Wolverton.—Here there is the original old Elizabethan Cup, with cover for Paten, of the fringe on stem pattern and dotted line ornament. As usual, there is no H.M., nor is it inscribed. There is a small salver Paten, which bears the Irish (Dublin) H.M. of 1738. There is also a very curious Flagon, also probably of Irish make. It has flat sides, cover and spout, and is unlike anything I have met with

elsewhere. Possibly it was taken from domestic use, but it is of very beautiful design. The Paten and Flagon are both inscribed as presented by "Thomas Staunton Patron 1738."

DEANERY OF WORCESTER, EAST.

Parish of Aston, White Ladies.—Here there is the original Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, of small size, of the usual floral band pattern, and the H.M. of 1571. The maker's initials are i. p. (in small characters). There is a salver Paten in plated ware, and an old Paten of pewter.

Bredicot with Tibberton.—Bredicot, like all the neighbouring Churches, has its Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual pattern, and the H.M. of 1571.

There is also a Cup and Paten, presented by the late Rector, Mr. Godfrey, and a Flagon of plated ware.

At Tibberton the list of plate is exactly the same—an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual pattern, and H.M. 1571; a Cup and Paten, presented by the late Rector, Mr. Godfrey, and a Flagon of plated ware.

Broughton Hackett.—Here again there is the Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual pattern, and smallest size, H.M. 1571. The maker's initials here are H. W. There is also an Alms Dish and a Flagon of pewter.

Churchill.—Here again is a small Elizabethan Cup, only 5½ inches in height, with the usual floral ornament, and the H.M. of 1571. The cover for Paten is gone, and there is no other plate.

Claines, S. John.—Here there is a very peculiar old Cup, almost without stem. It has been re-lined with a silver plate, which is probably the cause of the disappearance of the H.M. This is the only old plate remaining. Of modern plate there are two Cups, a large salver Paten, and a Flagon, given by the family of Mr. Lavender.

S. George.—The plate here consists of two Cups, a Paten, and a Plate of modern plain pattern, the gifts of Miss Newport, in the year 1830.

S. Stephen, Barbourne.—The plate here consists of two Cups, a Paten, and a Flagon, all given by the late Thomas Oldham, Esq.

Tything.—Here again there are two Cups, two Patens, an Alms

Dish, and a Flagon of handsome modern pattern, all given by Colonel Johnstone, at the opening of the Church.

Rainbow Hill.—This district is now formed into a parish. The plate consists of a Cup, which is copied from a large Elizabethan pattern of 1571, a Paten to fit on the Cup, with an Elizabethan moulding and a floral border engraved, inscribed on Paten, "The offerings of Archdeacon Lea. A.D. 1883." The Flagon, which is cruet-shaped, is of pewter.

Crowle.—Crowle, like the adjoining parishes, has retained its old Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten, of the usual pattern, and the H.M. of 1571.

There is a Flagon, with the H.M. of 1783, which is inscribed, "In memory of Sophie Lea, whose heart was set on the Restoration of the Church of Crowle, this Flagon was offered for use in the office of Holy Communion by William Lea, Arch^{dn}. of Worcester, 1883."

Hindlip.—The plate here is all modern, and consists of a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, silver gilt. The old set belonging to this Church, which is of plated ware, is now used in the Chapel built by Sir H. Allsopp, at Fernhill Heath.

Kempsey.—Here there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of the Restoration period, with the H.M. of 1670. Also a Cup and Paten, copies of the above, of modern manufacture. All are silver gilt.

Norton-juxta-Kempsey.—Here there are two sets of Communion plate, the ancient one consisting of a Cup of the baluster stem pattern, and a cover surmounted by a pointed knop for handle. The Cup is 5½ inches in height, including the stem, and the bowl 3½ inches in diameter. The following inscription runs round it:—"In usum ministri et populi in Capellâ de Norton juxta Kempsey in Com Vigorn. Robert Delies, John Wight, Churchwardens, 1677." H.M. 1675.

There is a curious Paten Plate, with depressed centre, 7½ inches in diameter, inscribed, "In usum ministri et populi in Capellâ de Norton juxta Kempsey, ex dono Reverendi in Christo Patris ac Dni Dni Jacobi permissione Divinâ Vigorn Episcopi Ao. Domini 1677." The donor must have been Bishop James Fleetwood, who is buried in the Cathedral. He was Rector of Sutton Coldfield, and accompanied the King to Edge Hill. He was tutor to the sons of several of the nobility during their exile in the time of the Commonwealth, and at the Restoration he was made Provost of King's College, Cambridge, and then Bishop of Worcester in 1675.

The other set of Communion plate consists of a Cup, Paten, Alms Dish (10 inches in diameter), and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern; H.M. 1873. Each article is inscribed on reverse, "The offering of "Ann, wife of Thomas Adams, of Wood Hall, A.D. 1876, to the glory "of God and for use in the Parish Church of Norton-juxta-Kempsey, "Diocese of Worcester."

Ombersley.—Here there is still the old Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten and the usual floral ornament, and the H.M. of 1571.

In addition to this there are two Cups, two Paten Plates, and two Flagons.

Pirton with Croome d'Abitôt.—At Pirton there is a large Cup of Puritan pattern, 9 inches high, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter at the top, with a very thick stem, and the H.M. of 1684. There is a salver Paten, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and the H.M. of 1685, and a large Flagon, tankard-shaped, also with the H.M. of 1685. These are all inscribed, "Pirton "Communion Plate."

Croome also possesses some very massive plate, silver gilt, with the H.M. of 1635. It consists of a very large Cup with cover for Paten, the Cup being 11 inches in height and 5 in diameter, two Plates for Alms, and a large Flagon, tankard-shaped. All are engraved with the Coventry arms. There is no inscription, but it is plain from the date that they were given by the first Lord Keeper Coventry.

Spetchley with Warndon.—Spetchley possesses a Cup without H.M., but having the maker's initials R. T. punched upon it four times. The weight is inscribed 13 oz. 14 dwts. Also a Flagon, tankard-shaped, without H.M., by the same maker as the Cup, as it also bears R. T. punched four times. Of this, too, the weight is inscribed, 53 oz. 19 dws. In addition to these there are two salver Patens, with indistinct H.M.s, but probably 1688.

At Warndon there is a small Cup, without cover, which is inscribed, "Ex dono Thomæ Wilde hujus Ecclesiæ Rectoris." T. Wilde was Rector of Warndon from 1642 till 1685. The H.M. is the lion rampant and letter R cursive, which I cannot discover in Cripps as a H.M. during the date of Mr. Wilde's incumbency. There is a pewter Paten, also a pewter Flagon, which last is inscribed, "Ex dono Thomas "Wilde 1680 Minister of Warndon."

Worcester, S. Martin.—The plate here consists of a Cup, Paten, and a large Flagon of modern pattern. It is reported that they were made out of the old plate which belonged to the Church.

Holy Trinity.—The plate here is modern, and was given at the consecration of the Church. It consists of a Cup, Paten, Alms Plate, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern.

S. Michael and Bedwardine.—Here there are two Cups, a salver Paten, and a Flagon of plated ware, provided in 1882.

S. Nicholas.—The only old plate belonging to this Church is a large salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1685. There are two Cups, with the H.M. of 1807, and two Flagons in plated ware.

S. Paul's.—Here there are two Cups, a Paten, and a Plate in plated ware.

S. Swithin.—Here, too, as at S. Nicholas, there is a large salver Paten of 1685. The Cup and Flagon are both of modern date and pattern.

DEANERY OF WORCESTER, WEST.

Parish of Areley Kings.—Here there is a very good specimen of the Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual floral band pattern, H.M. 1571, and inscribed on button, "Ano Do 1571." There is a large Paten and Flagon in plated ware.

Astley.—Here there is a modern Cup of peculiar pattern, long in the stem, with the bowl nearly hemispherical, inscribed on the side, "Presented to this Parish by W. Green Esq. of Poole House, 17th of August 1828."

There is a salver Paten, engraved with the Winford coat of arms, and inscribed round them, "The gift of Sir Thomas Cookes Winford to the Church of Astley 1728."

Broadwas.—The only old plate remaining here is the cover for Paten of an Elizabethan Cup. The date (1571) is inscribed on the button. The Cup itself is gone. There is a Cup and Paten of plated ware.

Cothoridge.—The plate here is very interesting. There is a Cup of plain Puritan pattern, the stem without any knop. It is 7 inches high and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter at the top. There is a large salver Paten, 9 inches in diameter. On both these the H.M.s are very indistinct; possibly they are 1588; but, as they are engraved with the sacred monogram, they are more probably of the time of Charles I., when this first makes its appearance.

There is a tankard-shaped Flagon, 11 inches in height, which is

inscribed as follows :—"The gift of 'O. C.' to 'D. B.' and by her to "the Church of Cotheridge 1663." It is not known who "O. C." was, but "D. B." was Dorothy Berkeley, the wife of Sir Rowland Berkeley, Knight. The rest of her donation is thus noted on the Table of Charitable Gifts in the Church :—"Dame Dorothy the wife "of Sir Rowland Berkeley Kt. gave in her life time a rich crimson "sattin damask for a pulpit cloth, and cushion, with a large carpet for "the Communion Table of the same ; as alsoe a set of fine damask "linnen for the use of the Communion Table, with a silver Flagon, "Plate, and Chalice."

I am informed that the cover of the Cup, as in some other country places, has always been used for collecting the alms of the congregation.

Grimley.—Here there is a large Cup of the baluster stem pattern. The stem is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and the Cup $3\frac{1}{2}$ in height and $4\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter. It has been inscribed in dotted letters, which are now very faint, "F. R. A.," and at some later date "Grimley Church." The H.M. is 1635. There is a Plate for Paten and a tankard for Flagon in plated ware.

Hallow.—Here there is an old Cup with cover for Paten of very peculiar shape. The Cup is hemispherical, with one band of ornament, like the Elizabethan floral band running round it. The Cup itself is 4 inches in height, the stem, which is quite plain and without ornament, $5\frac{1}{2}$. The cover for Paten has no ornament or inscription. There is no H.M. on either.

There is a very interesting salver Paten, quite flat, of hammered silver, on a short plain stem. It is 12 inches in diameter, and is inscribed on the reverse, "This Plate belongs to Hollow Church." The H.M. is the letter R cursive, which is the Edinburgh date letter for 1746. This is one of the few specimens of Scotch plate in the Archdeaconry.

There is a Flagon with a handle and domed top, no spout, inscribed, "Given by Mrs. Mary Harrison, Relict of R. Harrison, Esq., of "Temple Laugharne, in memory of her son, the Reverend J. W. "Harrison, Rector of Saint Clement's, Worcester, 1808." H.M. 1807.

Broadheath.—Here there is an embossed Cup, probably taken from domestic use. It bears the H.M. of 1796, and was presented to the Chapel when it was opened in 1836. There is a small salver Paten, 6 inches in diameter, standing on three feet, and inscribed, "Christ "Church Broadheath 1836 d.d. W. J. P." The H.M. of this is 1740.

There is a Cruet of coloured glass with silver bands, for Flagon, inscribed, "The gift of S. E. Bartlett, 1863."

Holt with Little Witley.—The Cup here is unusually large, 11 inches in height, of Puritan pattern. It is engraved with the sacred monogram, and is inscribed, "To God and the Church of Holt this is "humbly dedicated by Margaret Bromley." There is a salver Paten and a tankard-shaped Flagon, with domed top, 12 inches in height, with the same engraving and inscription. All bear the H.M. of 1698. There is also a small Cup of modern pattern, with the H.M. of 1869. The Alms Dish here is very curious. It is a brass shovel-shaped box, with a handle about a foot in length, and is inscribed as follows:—"Donavit Ed. Griffith Eccles de Holt com vig 3 die Julii 1721."

Little Witley possesses an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual floral band pattern, and the H.M. of 1571. It is also inscribed 1571 upon the button. At a later date the following inscription has been placed upon the Cup:—"Poculum sacrum "Capellanae de Witley Parva. Humph Hill Warden 1705." There is also a Plate and a large Cup of modern plain pattern in plated ware.

Knightwick with Doddenham.—Here there is a Cup and cover for Paten, without any ornament, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, with the H.M. of 1676. It is inscribed, "Knightwick Chalice 1676." There is a salver Paten, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, engraved with the sacred monogram, and inscribed on reverse, "Knightwick Paten 1881." There is a Flagon, 9 inches in height and 3 in diameter at the top, with a spout and handle, and the H.M. of 1881.

This old Cup and cover for Paten were sold, I am informed, at the time of the building of the new Church in 1855, but were discovered and restored to the Church, with the addition of the new salver Paten and Flagon, in the year 1883.

Doddenham possesses a Cup, two Patens, and a Flagon of modern pattern in plated ware.

Martley.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup, with the usual floral band ornament, and the H.M. of 1571. There is no cover for Paten. Also a second Cup, a copy of the 1571, inscribed on foot, "Ex dono H. J. "Hastings 1829."

There is a salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1715, which is inscribed, "Ex dono Rdi Pritchett a.m Cl 1744."

There is a Flagon of modern plain pattern, with a copy of the Elizabethan floral band to match the Cups. It is inscribed, "A

"thankoffering by Henry James Hastings, M.A., Rector and Patron
"of this Church. A.D. 1860."

There are also two very curious small Dishes, with fleur-de-lys handles. They are nearly 5 inches in diameter and about an inch in depth. They were probably intended for collecting alms. They have no H.M., but are apparently early 17th century work.

Shelsley Beauchamp.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the usual floral border, and H.M. 1571, inscribed on button of cover 1571. Also a small salver Paten, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, with the Dublin H.M., but the date letter is entirely obliterated; it is probably 17th century work, and is inscribed on reverse, "Ecclesiæ de Shelsley Beauchamp d.d. M.H." There is a large tankard-shaped Flagon, engraved with the Jeffries arms, and inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Frances Jeffries, one of the daughters of William Jeffries of Homecastle Esqr. to the Parish of Great Shelsley 1635." H.M. 1634.

Shrawley.—Here there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon. The Cup is inscribed, "Bryan Severne John Severne Churchwardens of Shrawley." The H.M. is Birmingham, probably 1821. The Paten, which apparently was taken from domestic use, is inscribed "1820," and was probably the gift of the same donor as the Flagon, which is inscribed, "The gift of Thomas Shrawley Vernon to Shrawley Church March 1820." There is also an Alms Dish of plated ware.

Wichenford.—The Cup here is a composite one. The cover for Paten is unmistakably Elizabethan, with the dotted line ornament on button and cover. There is no H.M. or inscription. The Cup itself, which is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, is engraved with a border of acorns round the top, and thistle-shaped ornaments running up to them. It is of somewhat later date than the cover, but there is no H.M. The stem, which is short in proportion, has the dotted line ornament round the foot, and traces of a gadrooned fringe, which at some later alteration has been compressed into a knop.

The Paten is a plate inscribed, "Dedicated to the service of the Church at Wichenford by Plukenett Woodroffe Esqr. in the year 1748." H.M. 1748.

Witley (Great).—Here there is a large Cup of Puritan pattern, silver gilt. The H.M. is indistinct; it may be either 1668 or 1676.

There is a large salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1717, which is inscribed, "The gift of the Right Honorable Mary Lady Foley to the

"Parish Church of Great Witley in the County of Worcester Anno. Dom. 1718."

The Flagon is large and tankard-shaped, with the H.M. of 1713, and the same inscription as the Paten, only 1713 instead of 1718. Both Paten and Flagon are silver gilt, and engraved with the Foley arms.

Worcester, All Saints.—The plate at this Church consists of an Elizabethan Cup of large size, with cover for Paten, and the usual floral ornament. It bears the H.M. of 1571, and is inscribed with that date on the cover. There is also a second Cup with cover for Paten, with the H.M. of 1635, of the usual pattern of that date. There is also a Paten of the date of 1839, and a Spoon. There are two large old Flagons of pewter.

S. Andrew.—Here there is one piece of plate which is curious in its way—a salver Paten of 1650, the second year of the Commonwealth. The Cup is a modern one, with the H.M. of 1840, and the Flagon is of plated ware.

S. Clement.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup with the usual floral band ornament, and the H.M. of 1571. There is also a second Cup, with the H.M. of 1748, and a large salver Paten of the same date.

S. Helen with S. Alban.—The plate here is some of the most interesting in the Archdeaconry, as showing in one Church the change from the old 1571 pattern to the Puritan pattern towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth. There is a Cup and cover for Paten of the largest size, with the usual floral band ornament, and the H.M. of 1571, having 1571 inscribed on the button of cover. This Cup is 8 inches high, the Cup itself being 5 and the stem 3 inches. There is also a second Cup with cover for Paten, with the H.M. of 1588 (the year of the defeat of the Armada), of almost exactly the same size and shape as the 1571 Cup, only entirely without ornament, either in moulding or engraving. There is also a large salver Paten, 10 inches in diameter, also with the H.M. of 1588. This is curious, as being the earliest instance of the salver Paten (unless it be a very rude one at S. John's without H.M.) which I have met with. These three articles have been gilt.

There is also a Plate, with the H.M. of 1770, which is inscribed, "e.d. M. Brooks 1770."

The Flagon is a handsome jug-shaped vessel, with a spout, but without cover, engraved with the arms of Bishop Hough, and possibly

given by him. It is 7 inches high and 5 inches in diameter at the top, has no H.M., and is probably of foreign make.

S. Alban's, which is united to S. Helen's, has a very curious old Cup, with the H.M. of 1619 (James I.) a very uncommon date. It is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and 3 in diameter at the top. Round the top and bottom of the Cup are floral bands, not unlike the Elizabethan, but the stem and foot are quite plain. On one side is inscribed W. Wyatt, and underneath his coat of arms; on the other W. Warmsey and his coat of arms. They were probably the two Churchwardens when the Cup was bought.

There is a small Paten, richly gilt, of modern mediæval pattern, engraved in the centre with a lamb. On the reverse is inscribed, "To the glory of God and in memory of James Henry Wilding "Rector of this Church of S. Alban's Worcester from Oct. 1840 to "Nov. 1862 this Paten is lovingly offered."

There are also two glass Cruets with silver bands, a curious pewter Tankard, 7 inches high, with "S.T." and "A.C." inscribed on the handle, and a pewter Plate.

S. John-in-Bedwardine.—Here, too, the old Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, with the usual floral band ornament, and the H.M. of 1571, still remains. There is a salver Paten of rude workmanship, made of hammered metal, which is apparently very old. There is no H.M., but it is inscribed, "The gift of G. Wryfall 1736." There is also a Cup and cover, the gifts of the late Vicar, Canon Wood, and a large Flagon, which is inscribed, "The gift of M. Carwardine."

S. Peter with Whittington.—At S. Peter's there is a Cup without cover, very light, and evidently very old; but the H.M. is quite illegible. A small silver band has been fastened inside round the rim to strengthen it. The name of "Samuel Newman" is inscribed upon it, but nothing more.

There is a salver Paten and an Alms Dish, bearing the H.M. of 1721, which are inscribed, "The gift of Mrs. Anna Dennis of the "Commandry in Worcester 1721."

There are also a Cup, Paten, and Flagon in plated ware.

At Whittington there is a Cup, Paten, and Flagon of modern mediæval pattern, with the H.M. of 1843, and inscribed on the reverse, "Whittington Church." There is also a large Alms Dish, inscribed on the reverse, "Hyla Holden Gent. gave this Alms Basin together "with the Flagon, Chalice, and Paten, to the Chapelry of Whittington

"on Tuesday the 19th day of March in the year of Our Lord 1844
"being the day of the Consecration of the new Chapel."

DEANERY OF WYCH.

Parish of Bromsgrove.—The plate here is all modern, of mediæval pattern, with the H.M. of 1876. It consists of two Cups, two Patens to match the same, and a Flagon. I am informed that the old plate of the Church was melted down towards the cost of providing this set.

All Saints.—Here there are two Cups, a plate Paten, and a large Flagon of modern plain pattern, with the H.M. of 1833. They are inscribed, "This Communion Service was dedicated to the glory of
"Almighty God, and in memory of His servant, Henry Walter More
"Molineux, sometime Curate of this Parish. Anno Domini 1873."

Catshill.—Here there is a Cup, a salver Paten, and a Flagon in plated ware.

Dodderhill with Elmbridge.—Here there is a very good instance of a large sized Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual floral band pattern, the H.M. of 1571, and that year inscribed on the button of the cover. The maker's initials are H. W. This Cup inclines a little to lip. There is also a Plate and two Flagons, of plain pattern, engraved with the sacred monogram, and inscribed, "Given to the
"Church of Dodderhill by the Patron Thomas Holbeche Esq. of Hill
"Court, Anno Domini 1797." The H.M. is of the same year. On the reverse of the plate the Holbeche arms are engraved.

Elmbridge also possesses a still better preserved instance of a large Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, of the usual pattern, with the H.M. and inscription of 1571. There is also a Flagon and a Paten of modern mediæval pattern, recently given by the Amphlett family.

Doverdale.—Here, too, there is an Elizabethan Cup with cover for Paten, and the H.M. of 1571. The floral band varies a little from the usual pattern, and the shape of the Cup at the lip has been slightly altered at some recent repair. The stem has been broken at some time, and rudely mended. There is a large Plate for Paten, engraved with the sacred monogram, which bears the H.M. of 1868. It was given by the previous Rector, the Rev. J. Oldham. There is also a similar Plate in plated ware.

Droitwich, S. Andrew.—Here there is an Elizabethan Cup of large

size, with the H.M. of 1571. It has the usual floral band ornament, but the stem, which is of more recent work, is shorter than the original. The foot is of the same date as the Cup. There is no cover for Paten. There is also a salver Paten, a Salver on feet, and a Flagon in plated ware.

S. Nicholas.—The plate here is of modern plain pattern, and was given at the consecration of the Church, about ten years ago. It consists of a Cup, a salver Paten, and a Flagon.

S. Peter's.—Here again there is an Elizabethan Cup, with the usual floral band ornament, and the H.M. of 1571. It is rather smaller in diameter than usual. There is no cover for Paten.

There is a second Cup, an exact copy of the Elizabethan; it bears the H.M. of 1865, and is inscribed on the reverse of foot, "The gift of "William and Sophie Lea."

There is a salver Paten, with the H.M. of 1696, with the usual cable border, which became common in the following reign of Queen Anne. It is inscribed, "Snt P. Parrish in Droitwich." The Flagon is about 9 inches in height, with a domed-shaped cover, and a lip. It bears the H.M. 1781, and is inscribed, "To the glory of God and "in memory of Sophie Lea this Flagon was offered to the Church of "St. Peter, Droitwich, for use in the office of Holy Communion by "William Lea. 1883."

Finstall, S. Godwald.—Here there is a Cup of plain pattern, 8 inches in height, inscribed, "Given to the Chapel of St. Godwald in the "Parish of Stoke Prior Worcestershire, by J. J. Majendie D.D. "February 12 1774."

There is a small Paten, 4 inches in diameter, also inscribed, "J. J. Majendie D.D. February 12 1774."

There is also a Plate and a Flagon in plated ware.

Hadzor-cum-Oddingley.—At Oddingley there is a plain Cup of peculiar pattern, gilt inside, with the H.M. of 1802. Also a salver Paten, standing on three feet, with an embossed rim, 6 inches in diameter, inscribed on the reverse, "Hadzor 1816." It was probably taken from domestic use, as the H.M. is 1754. In addition to this there is a curious pewter Flagon, apparently very old, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches high, with a pear-shaped body, made of two pieces joined together. There is no spout, and the lid fits into the top. There is no mark or inscription upon it, but it is more like the Elizabethan shape than anything I have seen in pewter. There is also a pewter Plate.

At Hadzor there is a Cup of exactly the same size and shape as that at Oddingley, of which, probably, it is a copy ; the only difference is that it is not gilt inside. It has the H.M. of 1812, and is inscribed on the foot, "The gift of The Reverend Richard Holmden Amphlett 1816." There is also a salver Paten, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, engraved with the sacred monogram, and inscribed on foot, "The humble gift of Ester "Paul to Hadzor Church Aug. 4 1816." The H.M. is of the same year.

Hampton Lovett.—The only plate here is a small Cup of plain pattern, with the H.M. of 1755, and two Patens of plated ware.

Hanbury.—The plate here is the most massive in the Archdeaconry. It is of the Georgian pattern, all silver gilt, and engraved with the sacred monogram. It consists of two very large Cups with covers to be used as Patens, two large Alms Plates, and four very large and massive tankard-shaped Flagons, with domed tops, weighing from 70 to 80 oz. each. Each article bears the H.M. of 1721, and is inscribed, "E dono Bowater Vernon Arm." They were given in the year in which Mr. Vernon came into possession of the property.

Himbleton.—There are many points of interest connected with the Cup of this parish. It is large, being $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, of Puritan pattern, with a cover for Paten. It has no H.M., but the maker's initials, "S. R.," punched four times. It is inscribed, "Mr. John Fincher's gift to the Parish of Himbleton 1656, augmented 1688." The cover Paten, which has no H.M., is inscribed "1688," the first of these dates being the Commonwealth, the latter the Restoration period. This augmentation is explained by a notice on the Board of Charities in the Church as follows :—"Mr. John Fincher gave a silver "Communion Cup weighing 8 oz. in the year of Our Lord 1656, "which in the year 1688 was by the addition of more mettle altered "into a fair silver Chalice and Paten for the more decent use in the "Celebration of the Lord's Supper, amounting in weight to seventeen "ounces and upwards."

Huddington.—This is the adjoining parish to Himbleton, and the Cup is small, plain, and of Puritan pattern, almost without stem. it has no H.M., but the maker's initials, "S. R.," punched four times upon it; from this it may be conjectured that this was a companion Cup to that at Himbleton before it was "augmented." If so, it may be ascribed to the same year as Mr. Fincher's original gift, 1656 (during the rule of Cromwell). Possibly the two parishes were held together at that time. The Paten is small, and of plated ware.

Lickey.—Here there is a Cup of modern mediæval pattern, engraved with the sacred monogram, and a Paten, which is inscribed on the reverse, "In honorem Dei et in usum Ecclesiæ Sanctissimi Trinitatis" "juxta Bromsgrove d.d. Joannes Day Collis A.M. 1855."

Martin Hussingtree.—Here there is a plain Cup and a salver Paten, both of them bearing the H.M. of 1751. Also an Alms Dish and a Flagon, with the H.M. of 1857. These last the gifts of the Rev. H. Godfrey.

Salwarpe.—Here the Cup and cover for Paten are in part Elizabethan. The Cup has the Elizabethan floral band, but apparently is of more recent date, the lips project more than usual, and there is no H.M. The stem and foot are undoubtedly Elizabethan, so is the cover for Paten, though the button has been altered into a pointed top, this alteration was probably made when the Cup was renewed.

There is also a large Paten and a Flagon of the Restoration date and pattern, each of them bearing the following inscription:—"Ad Decentiores Cænæ Dominicæ Administrationem Cui Ipsa Constanter adfuit Pia Mente Lagenam (Patinam) hanc dicavit Dna Elizabetha Talbot Nuper de Oakley in Parochia de Salwarpe in Com Wigorn." The H.M. is 1689.

There is a silver Dish or Paten, which is inscribed, "Presented to the Parish of Salwarpe by Admiral Vashon for the Collection of the Offerings at the Celebration of the Lord's Supper. A.D. 1820."

Stoke Prior has a silver-gilt Cup and Paten to match of modern mediæval pattern, given by the Rev. H. Aldham, in the year 1848. The Flagon is of pewter, and is inscribed, "The Church Flagon of Stoke." This Flagon was silver plated about the year 1854. There is also an Alms Plate.

Tardebigge with Webheath.—At Tardebigge there is a plain Cup, a Plate, a small salver Paten, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and a Flagon tankard-shaped, 9 inches high, all inscribed, "Other, Earl of Plymouth to the Parish of Tardebig 1790." The H.M. is of the same year.

At Webheath there is a Cup, a salver Paten, and a Flagon of plated ware.

Upton Warren possesses a large-sized Elizabethan Cup and cover for Paten of the usual pattern, and the H.M. and inscription of 1571. This is a very well preserved specimen of the date.

